

Breakaway union chief locks out NUM Notts area president

The battle for the loyalty of 28,000 miners began yesterday as the area's breakaway union severed another link with the past by naming Mr Ray Chadburn, National Union of Mineworkers' area president, from its Mansfield headquarters.

Mr Chadburn and Mr Roy Lynk, general secretary of the newly-named Nottinghamshire Union of Mineworkers, were involved in an angry shouting match through an intercom system at the front door of the union building.

That was as far as Mr Chadburn got before he left to consult his solicitor about a letter due from the Nottinghamshire union informing him that he had repudiated his contract

From Craig Seton, Mansfield and was deemed to have dismissed himself by his declaration that he would not be president of a "breakaway" organization.

Mr Lynk yesterday also wrote to Mr Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the national union, officially informing him that Nottinghamshire had left the federation of the national union.

Mr Chadburn, who threatened to return daily to the Mansfield headquarters, had supported the miners' strike from the outset and always admitted that his position in Mansfield, alongside men who refused to join the strike, was untenable.

Area president for six years and a union official for 23, he

had walked out of Monday's meeting of the rebel Nottinghamshire executive, saying that he would remain loyal to the national union but refusing to resign.

He follows Mr Henry Richardson, the area's left-wing, pro-strike former general secretary who was dismissed by his former colleagues.

Mr Chadburn arrived early at the Mansfield headquarters yesterday but found a side door locked from the inside. He went to the main entrance, only to be told by a receptionist over the intercom that she had been instructed not to let him into the building.

As Mr Chadburn turned to leave, denouncing the closed-door policy of his former colleagues and promising to work from his garden shed, Mr Lynk's voice was heard over the intercom demanding "Who's that?"

Mr Chadburn replied: "It's me, Ray," and Mr Lynk responded: "You have a letter saying you are excluded from the building."

Mr Chadburn shouted several times that he had received no letter. Mr Lynk offered to let his former colleague in, but only to collect his personal possessions. Mr Chadburn said that he would not argue over the intercom.



Mr Ray Chadburn trying to gain admittance through a side door to NUM headquarters in Mansfield yesterday.

Bad seal blamed for legion outbreak

A leaking seal in a hospital air conditioning unit could have caused the world's worst outbreak of Legionnaires disease, possibly killing 46 people, an official inquiry was told yesterday.

The investigation ordered by the Government into the outbreak in Staffordshire earlier this year, heard at its opening that seven more people than the 39 thought originally to be victims, could have died from the disease.

The hearing in Stafford was also told by an expert that government guidelines drawn up to safeguard hospitals against outbreaks did not go far enough.

Mr Robin Jacob, QC, at the beginning of what is expected to be a lengthy inquiry, said that it was clear the £25 million Stafford District hospital, opened in 1983, was the source of the infection.

The leaking seal could have been responsible. Contaminated water could have spread through the seal into the cooling tower system when the unit was closed down last Easter. When it was re-started last April, air carrying the deadly bug could have then been blown over people visiting the hospital, he said.

During the outbreak 1174 people were admitted with chest infections. Sixty-one were later confirmed to have the disease. The first identified in the United States nine years ago.

There were 46 reported deaths during a six-week period last April and May. Only 16 of those were officially confirmed to be from the disease, but the same cause could not be ruled out in the other cases.

Mr Jacob said that the inquiry, headed by Sir John Bannock, a consultant physician, was not a fault-finding exercise but a "search for truth". It would have to look at how the outbreak happened.

The panel would also have to inquire whether the medical treatment of the victims was correct and decide whether the hospital was correctly designed, constructed and maintained in regard to the known risks of the disease.

The public inquiry will produce an interim report making recommendations to hospitals on how to prevent further outbreaks when its first stage finishes on July 24.

The second stage of the investigation, which will begin in September, will be a wide-ranging scientific study of similar outbreaks.

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Universities criticized by Joseph over standards

By Our Education Correspondent

Universities need to do more to reassure the public that their teaching and research is of the highest standard, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

They should also develop programmes to enable the performance of lecturers to be appraised, he told a conference in London organized by *The Times Higher Education Supplement* and the Society for Research into Higher Education.

In a speech in defence of his Green Paper on higher education, which may be followed by a White Paper next year, he claimed to have been misunderstood by his critics. Virtually the whole education world, and others, have denounced the Green Paper.

Sir Keith said it was not true that he did not value the study of the humanities as an end in itself.

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"It is precisely because of the intrinsic value that I place on higher education as it exists in our centres of excellence in this country that I have always laid such stress on standards and on quality."

Quality depended, to some extent on money, he acknowledged, but it was not enough simply to tell the Government that quality depended on maintaining any particular historical level of resources.

"What disturbs me is my sense that it is really only in the past two or three years that the universities in particular have begun to pay serious attention to questions of their arrangements and machinery for ensuring quality in teaching and protecting standards in examinations."

"Although the Green Paper states the idea of a validating body for the universities, I am still not convinced that the universities in particular (because they are free from external quality control or investigation) are conscious enough of the weight of responsibility that they bear for the monitoring and preservation of their own standards."

Those were questions which universities could have tackled more vigorously when money was plentiful, he said.

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Britain has poor image overseas

By Our Education Correspondent

Britain is very near the bottom of the league table in promoting itself abroad, way behind France, which spends four times as much, West Germany the United States and Japan.

The result, according to the British Council, which published its annual report yesterday, is that British influence in the world is in real danger of falling substantially behind other countries.

"The football riots at Brussels were a shocking reminder that Britain's image overseas is in trouble," Sir John Bannock, the council's director-general, said. "We cannot afford to be complacent. Our international reputation, our influence and our trade depend upon what the world thinks of us. Tourism alone is worth over £5 billion a year to Britain."

Sir John said that the French Government spent 38 per cent of its foreign ministry budget on cultural relations compared with the British 14.3 per cent. In the past five years the British Council's grant had declined by 20 per cent in real terms.

Even the Japanese, who have only recently begun to promote themselves abroad, now spend more on cultural relations than Britain and have announced a big drive to increase overseas students. The USSR is also said to be spending £1 billion on overseas students.

To maintain British influence the council is asking the Government for more money. Sir John said that it wanted restored the £1.1 million savings arbitrarily required of it this year and needed an extra £6 million, spread over the next three years, to augment its income of £29 million.

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Tory 'caucus' in new procedural dispute

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

A "caucus" of Conservative MPs who no longer have an effective working majority on the trouble-ridden Commons Employment Select Committee, will spark another dispute today by attempting to change the committee's procedure and working practices.

The latest internal division comes after the controversy last month when Mr John Goss, Conservative MP for Hendon, North, joined with Labour MPs to recommend that miners dismissed during the pit strike should not subsequently be reinstated, should have their cases reviewed.

The remaining five Conservatives, who now treat Mr Goss as an independent and thereby no longer expect an automatic majority on the 11-man committee, are, in practice, seeking a veto over the holding of meetings where there have been late changes of business, or where reports have not been circulated at least a week in advance.

The demands made to Mr Ron Leighton, Labour MP for Newham North East, and the committee chairman, by Mr Gerry Neale, MP for Cornwall

North, and the unofficial leader of the Conservative group, reflects the frustration of the five Tories at being a minority group, and what they regard as the improper handling of the miners' inquiry by the committee.

Mr Neale is also known to favour other changes in the way the committee is run and contested decisions are reached.

An agenda circulated to members says that Mr Leighton and Mr Neale have reached an "agreement" when meetings should be postponed or cancelled.

But the supposed deal will be fiercely resisted by Mr Goss, probably with the backing of other Labour MPs.

The behaviour of the Conservative group is causing growing concern. Their detractors say that they are acting largely in a party political manner, and against the best traditions of the select committee system.

More important, there is a growing fear that the public disputes, and the widespread attention they receive in the press, will prove highly damaging to the committee's work.

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Four await sentence for smuggling

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Four businessmen face possible prison sentences of up to two years at Birmingham Crown Court tomorrow for their part in smuggling military equipment to South Africa.

They were remanded in custody overnight by Mr Justice Mansfield, who told counsel for one of the men that to breach the arms embargo to South Africa "was a matter of the utmost gravity that must be punished by law under a future Labour government, according to Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer."

The proposal is put forward in paper for discussion by the Party's National Executive Committee, which the two authors, both senior left-wing members of the NEC, say is designed to put socialist analysis and policies back at the top of Labour's agenda.

It is the latest in a series of three papers designed to recover ground which the left believes it has lost to the centre of the party since the accession of Mr Neil Kinnock to the leadership in 1983.

Their previous paper, which was narrowly rejected at a meeting of the NEC last May, complained that power had been progressively removed from the NEC and the party's annual conference by the creation of joint committees of the NEC and the parliament party. This is denied by Mr Kinnock.

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Let workers choose chiefs, Benn says

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The right of all employees in public and private industries and services to elect and remove their managers should be guaranteed by law under a future Labour government, according to Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer.

The proposal is put forward in paper for discussion by the Party's National Executive Committee, which the two authors, both senior left-wing members of the NEC, say is designed to put socialist analysis and policies back at the top of Labour's agenda.

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In a speech in defence of his recent Paper on higher education, which may be followed by a White Paper next year, he said that there had been a misunderstanding of his criticism. Virtually the whole education world, and here he denounced the Press, had taken it as a personal attack.

Sir Keith said it was not true that he did not value the study of the humanities as an end in itself.

The allegation that the government undervalues higher education, or regards higher education as a merely useful activity in the narrow sense of the term, is a fantasy of our times. It has no basis in fact. It is precisely because of the intrinsic value that I place on higher education as it exists in centres of excellence in this country that I have always laid stress on standards and quality.

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What disturbs me is more the fact that it is really only in the last two or three years that the universities in particular have been given so serious attention. Questions of their arrangements, their funding, their machinery for ensuring quality in teaching and protecting standards in examinations.

Although the Green Paper reflects the idea of a validating body for the universities, I am not convinced that the universities in particular, because they are free from external quality control or regulation, are conscious enough of the weight of responsibility that they bear for monitoring and preserving standards of their own standards.

Those were questions which universities could have tackled more vigorously when money was plentiful, he said.

parades

Order, has said a report by the government is being published with police officers who have their kith and kin. Local leaders of the parade in Bradford appear to be backing away from their threat to attempt to march through the city centre.

ged by MP

apply, but now that it is being applied, there seems to be a tendency to silence those who could not come down the road. We are back with the same old story. If the government can't reduce interest rates, high I think they should at least they can cut on the public companies and stop them from going down the road.

Developers of commons 'thieves'

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Landowners and developers are being criticised as common thieves by Dr David Clark, Labour spokesman on the environment.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Open Spaces Society, which he is chairman of, Mr Clark said that the Commons Regeneration Act, 1975, although intended to protect common land, had caused its destruction.

Opportunist farmers, landowners and developers can take the best of both worlds and remove common land from the register. The 1.5 million acres of common land were unique to England and Wales, historic and scenic.

In the past year there had been applications to designate 10 areas of common land in Kent, Sussex, Somerset, Dorset and Devon.

in Times or press selling news

Drug traffickers should be stripped of profits by law, Lord Lane says

Parliament was urged last night by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, to introduce laws enabling drug traffickers to be stripped of their profits and to put pressure on the drug producing countries to cut production.

"There seem to be few signs of urgency," he said. "How many more years will go by, how many more children and young persons will have to die of drug deaths, before action is taken?"

"One would have thought that there would be few things more important for Parliament to get on with, and few things less contentious."

Lord Lane, who was speaking at the Lord Mayor's dinner

at The Mansion House, said that at last people were beginning to realize the size of the problem, and the "appalling prospects for the future as cocaine vies with heroin for the privilege of being the leading destroyer of youth."

It looked as though more resources were at last being provided for education, for interception and perhaps for treatment.

But these were only palliatives. What was required was first of all to prevent drugs being produced, he said.

"One sees from time to time protestations by the countries concerned that they have done this, that or the other to curtail production. When the street

price of heroin and cocaine starts rising, I will start to believe these protestations," Lord Lane said.

Of the "perennial nightmare, the increasing crime rate", the Lord Chief Justice said that providing different types of punishment had no effect at all except to make the task of judges more difficult.

The difficulty was "compounded by changes in the rules relating to parole which are increasing the gap, already great enough, between what the court orders and what happens in the criminal in fact."

Lord Lane suggested that the very existence, or place, of parole in the system of detention and release of prisoners should be subjected to a serious review.

"What is much more alarming is the increase in the number of the crime, rather than the increase in its volume. This is something which may be more susceptible to cure," he said.

It is now accepted as common form that once you have your victim on the ground, you kick him, preferably in the stomach or on the head, where the blows are likely to do the maximum injury.

"It happens in almost every film and TV play, so it is not surprising that it has become, so to speak, an acceptable form of violence in the eyes of many people."

"On the TV and, quite often, thanks to the TV news reports, violence is self-perpetuating. We are about to see the same thing happening in relation to hijacking."

"The intense TV coverage of the parietous speeches by statesmen and politicians; the widely publicized, but mostly hollow, threats; these all serve to fuel the enthusiasm of the potential hijacker, providing him with the promise of publicity, which is all he wants."

Police drug squads come under scrutiny

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

The performance and success of police operations against drug abuse have been placed under tighter Home Office scrutiny according to the annual report of the Chief Inspector of Constabulary published yesterday.

For many years there have been complaints that some provincial forces have failed to take the problem of rising drug abuse or trafficking seriously. It was only last autumn that the government announced that all 45 forces in England and Wales had finally appointed their own drug squads.

Now the work of those squads is being monitored to indicate their effectiveness and the extent of the problem.

In his report, Sir Lawrence Byford, the Chief HMI, announced that his inspectors will place increased emphasis on the work of drug squads during future inspections of forces.

Chief constables have also been told they must supply quarterly figures on drug misuse to the Home Office.

The quarterly figures are supplied to the inspectors who then provide the Home Office with a synopsis. Chief constables are asked to provide information on the police action being taken against drug problems, details of successful operations, including detective work and community education, and appraisals of the problem in their areas.

The drug squads will be examined during annual visits by inspectors to forces in their regions. They would look at manpower, operations and force policy.

The number of incidents of drug trafficking rose by 35 per cent in 1984 in forces outside London. The increase over 1983 was from 3,495 incidents to 4,713.

Plea over doomed animals

By a Staff Reporter

Executors of the Mirehouse will be considering a last-minute bid by the RSPCA to save the animals in danger of being put down.

In her will, Miss Mary Mirehouse, aged 77, who died last week, ordered that her animals - seven Irish setters, a pinto, a donkey, pigeons, canaries and goldfish - be destroyed before her funeral tomorrow.

Last Friday solicitors handling the estate agreed to a temporary reprieve after an anonymous benefactor granted the RSPCA immunity over any penalty for not following the will.

The RSPCA promised to find good homes for the animals still being cared for at Miss Mirehouse's home at Hawkesbury Upton, near Bristol. In a letter yesterday to the executors the society said it would now be "absurd and inhumane" if they were to carry out the will's instructions.

Christie's admits to false sale figures

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Mr David Bathurst, chairman of Christie's in London, has admitted to issuing false information on the sale of two important paintings, by van Gogh and Gauguin.

After they were offered for sale at Christie's in New York in 1981, the company issued a press release claiming that they were successfully sold. However, no bidder had topped the reserve, or minimum price, agreed with the owner, and they were bought in, on his behalf at \$2.1 million and \$1.3 million respectively.

That information emerged because of a hearing on July 2 in the New York Supreme Court of a case brought by the pictures' owner against Christie's for negligence and other damages.

The action was dismissed in a summary judgement and the court stated that no further claims of diminished value on lost profits based on Christie's estimates of February 1981, could properly be made.

Mr Dmitry Jodidlo, now described as "the principal officer of a Lausanne-based art dealership," sent eight important paintings for sale at Christie's.

Neither Cristallina, the art dealership, nor Mr Jodidlo were referred to in the catalogue.

On the night of the gala auction, only one of the eight pictures found a buyer: a Degas portrait of Manet sold for an auction record price of \$2.2 million. Christie's appears to have panicked, and decided that it could not reveal such a dreadful result. They claimed that three pictures were sold.

Mr Jodidlo brought a case against Christie's claiming damages for its negligence in failing to sell the other seven paintings. The difference between the price realized by the sale of the one painting and the \$10 million which he had originally sought from the eight paintings.

Sale room, page 14

Teeth at risk from infection

By Our Social Sciences Correspondent

Dental patients who are debilitated are at risk of serious infections because some dentists are still using boiling water to sterilize dental instruments, microbiologists warned yesterday.

A survey carried out in Merseyside found that nearly 20 per cent of dentists were still using boiling water rather than autoclaves or hot air ovens to sterilize instruments.

Tests on the boiling apparatus used by 31 dentists showed that in all cases during 620 sterilizing cycles, the apparatus failed to sterilize the instruments properly. Eighty per cent of the microorganisms found remained viable after an extended boiling cycle.

British Dental Journal (Vol 169 p 18, July 6, 1985).



The Queen Mother meeting pupils at Wells Cathedral School yesterday.

Cheaper holidays to Spain forecast

By Derek Harris and Claire Dobie

Many of next year's holidays could be cheaper, particularly in Spain where hoteliers are expected to offer better deals to tour operators, and a weakening peseta is also having its effect.

This was forecast yesterday by Mr Harry Goodman, chairman of Intasun Leisure, the second largest package holiday company in Britain.

The forecast is in line with expectations in the rest of the industry, which is anticipating that Spanish prices will be nearer those of last year.

The cost of Spanish package holidays jumped by a fifth this summer, mainly because hoteliers raised prices, and holidaymakers have stayed away.

About three million British holidaymakers went to Spain last summer, but numbers

could be down to 2.5 million or less this summer, according to Lunn Poly, one of the biggest travel agency chains. That has left many Spanish hotels running at well below break-even point on profits, and is likely to lead to more advantageous deals being done for next summer by British tour operators.

The expectations are that Greek hoteliers will be looking for price increases next summer, because the country has been such a popular destination this summer. But the weakening of the drachma in relation to sterling is likely to wipe out the effect of any price increases.

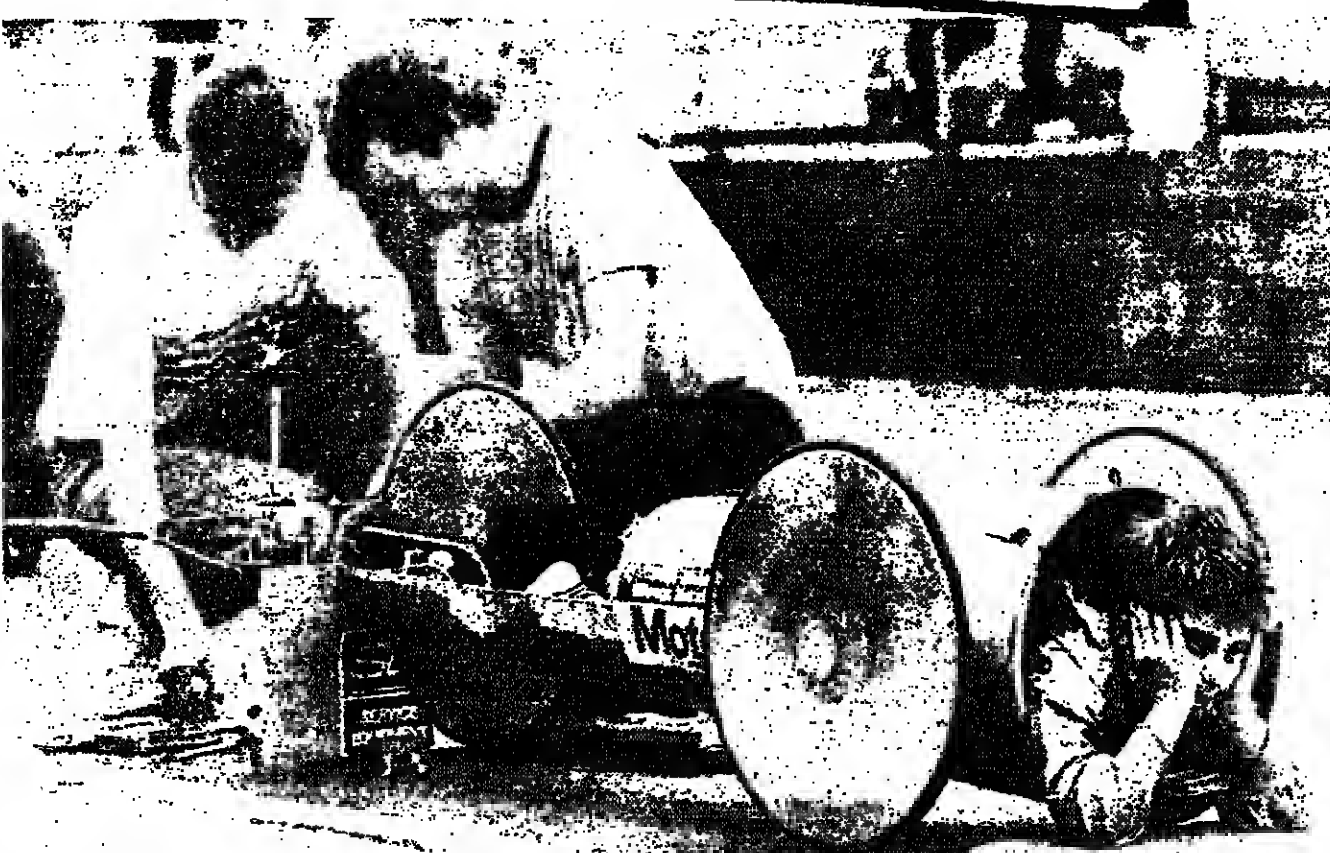
Intasun expects lower prices to attract people who are not taking a Continental holiday this year. Mr Goodman said yesterday that by the end of the

summer season the decline in package holidays compared with last year was likely to be 12 to 15 per cent, although Intasun itself claims to be only five per cent lower than last year, and hopes to end the season with a slight increase in business.

Intasun's Spanish bookings are 15 per cent down to date, but Mr Goodman hopes that the final tally will be down by only 5 per cent.

One estimate is that until recently Spanish bookings were as much as 40 per cent down, but there has been an increase in late bookings in the past few weeks.

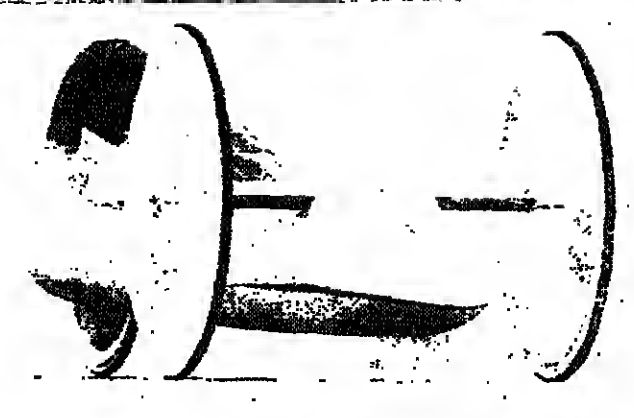
Bookings in the trade overall in the past four weeks have been running about a quarter higher than at the same time last year, according to Lunn Poly.



4,010 m.p.g. British record for petrol-sipping car

The winner of the Shell-Motor magazine mileage marathon at Silverstone yesterday, setting a new British fuel economy record of 4,010 miles a gallon.

The winning car, number 13, (right) was driven by Daniel Billington, aged 11, of south London, on behalf of the mechanical engineering department of King's College, London.



Aids blood screen kits still being tested

By Thomson Premier Science Correspondent

Government scientists are still testing the reliability of its kits to screen donors' blood against Aids, and the kits are unlikely to be introduced in transfusion centres before the end of October, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

It was responding to a call by a leading blood expert for the immediate screening of every donor in Britain. Dr Peter Jones, director of the Haemophilia Centre at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne, was speaking at an inquiry into the death of one of his patients.

"I think it is of the utmost urgency that all blood donors

within the UK should be screened individually as this gives us one of the only ways we know at present of preventing the spread of the disease", Dr Jones said.

"Kits are already available in America and we should immediately apply them in this country."

However, the DHSS pointed

out that there had been reports from the US that the tests were not entirely reliable.

An evaluation programme of the kits is being carried out by scientists within the Public Health Laboratory Service and by Blood Transfusion Service centres.

Of 176 people known to have developed Aids in Britain, 83 have died.

Court ruling sought on Bradford headmaster

The Disciplinary procedure which could lead to the dismissal of Mr Ray Honeyford, the Bradford headmaster involved in a dispute over multi-racial education, was halted indefinitely yesterday pending proceedings in the High Court.

Lawyers acting for Bradford council and Mr Honeyford agreed to the suspension of the procedure after a letter from the National Association of Head Teachers had challenged the validity of any further action.

After a four-day hearing last month, the governors of Drummond Middle School, Bradford, recommended the reinstatement of Mr Honeyford, who has been suspended from his £15,000-a-year post since last April after allegations of racism.

The next stage in the procedure was to have been a meeting today between Mr Honeyford, his advisers, and Mr Norman Roper, an assistant director of education at Bradford. That has been postponed.

Bradford council has contended that Mr Roper had the power to disregard or change a recommendation by the governors, but the view of the association is that the council must reinstate Mr Honeyford. The association is to ask the High Court for an interpretation of the relevant clause in the Articles of Government under the Education Act, 1949.

Jury in hotel

A jury trying seven Asians and three whites alleged to have been involved in a racial battle in Newham, north London, in April last year, went to an hotel last night after failing to reach verdicts at the Central Criminal Court.

Test tube triplets

Mrs Sandra Southernwood, of Kingston Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, has given birth to the first National Health Service test tube triplets, all girls, in Epsom District Hospital.

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Short-stay Liberal victors • Firm hand on inflation

PM after Brecon result: 'I believe in the right way'

THE ECONOMY

Urged in the Commons to define "the middle way", Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, drew loud cheers from Conservative backbenchers when she declared: "I believe in the right way. It is the way we are going."

At question time, shortly before Mr Richard Lacey, the new Liberal MP for Brecon and Radnor was introduced and took his seat, Mrs Thatcher strongly defended the Government's policies and maintained that they were honouring pledges on defence, law and order, the health service and pensions. However, inflation still required a firm hand.

In response to Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, the Conservative MP Lacey on his victory but pointed out the short tenure as MPs of Liberals who won by-elections. She said it was still government policy to get further reductions in direct taxation.

In opening the questioning of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab) wondered whether the reported decision of the Secretary of State for the Environment to scrap the present system of constraint on local authority finance through penalties and targets denoted the first part of the Government's failure to hold the seat in the Brecon and Radnor by-election.

What further concessions are likely (he asked) as the Government goes further down the slope to electoral disaster?

Mrs Thatcher: No final decision has yet been taken on the support grant settlement for 1987. On June 16 the Secretary of State (Mr Patrick Jenkin) said: "I should like to be able to abandon targets and holdback, but much depends on the

level of local authority spending in the coming years."

Mr Ian Lloyd (Havant, C, in the context of President Reagan's timely reminder that the campaign against terrorism world wide must be indivisible, she was aware of any event which throws a more glaring light on the squalid and contemptible character of political opportunism than the appearance on a public platform in the centre of London together with representatives of an organization whose objectives and methods are indistinguishable from



Howarth: Lower taxes would be valuable

those of the IRA, a member of the Privy Council - the Leader of the Opposition.

Is there anything the Prime Minister can do to ensure that the authority and prestige of the Privy Council will not be illegitimately transferred in this way?

Mrs Thatcher: He makes his own point cogently and I am glad he has brought the matter to my public attention.

Mr Hattersley, Deputy Leader of the Opposition: Does the Prime Minister endorse the judgement of her Chancellor that ours is the most

successful economy in western Europe, or have her civil servants during her busy day had the opportunity to explain to her the phoney nature of the statistics on which the Chancellor's claim was based?

Mrs Thatcher: The Chancellor was endeavouring to point out what is a fact - that there is no country in Europe which has had such a good record on creation of new jobs in the last 12 months.

Mr Hattersley: I understand why the Prime Minister has not read what the Chancellor said, but what he did say was that we had the best growth rate in western Europe and the only way to secure a firm hand, it is not possible to say anything about the interest rate from the despatch box but one does not wish it to be high for a moment longer than the inflation rate requires.

Will she ensure that the Fowler review does not result in a manipulation of the figures or does she repudiate them?

While on the subject of the Government's achievements, will she answer the question I asked 10 days ago and which she dodged and continues to dodge? Will she confirm that she has presided over levels of unemployment, company liquidations, real interest rates, mortgage rates and manufacturing trade deficits that are the highest in the history of this country?

Mrs Thatcher: We have also presided over record output, record standard of living, record investment, record overseas assets.

Mr Hattersley: I simply ask her to answer the question I have asked on three occasions. Are the allegations I make about the record catastrophes over which she has presided true or false?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not influence Mr Hattersley in his questions and he must not influence my answers. We have record output, record standard of living, record investment and record overseas assets. I

only regret the leader of the Opposition (Mr Kinnoch) is not here to say it to him.

Mr Alan Howard (Stratford-on-Avon, C): Does she agree that the lower taxes achieved as a result of the privatization programme would be a valuable and welcome but that the only way to secure a firm hand, it is not possible to say anything about the interest rate from the despatch box but one does not wish it to be high for a moment longer than the inflation rate requires.

Mrs Thatcher: I believe that most people would prefer more tax take, more public expenditure but not more inflation. It is not possible to say anything about the interest rate from the despatch box but one does not wish it to be high for a moment longer than the inflation rate requires.

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him bearing in mind that many of the world's economic indicators, including oil, continue to present a confusing picture and that our own inflation rate still requires a firm hand.

Mrs Thatcher: He has found the reply in his last few words. Our own inflation rate still requires a firm hand. It is not possible to say anything about the interest rate from the despatch box but one does not wish it to be high for a moment longer than the inflation rate requires.

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Party's united policy, particularly on nuclear defence, with the divided policies of the Social Democratic Party and the Liberal Party.

Would she acknowledge that while middle of the road policies may be OK for some, driving all over the road is dangerous for everyone and the more help the Liberals get from the British School of Motoring the better?

Mrs Thatcher: I know not what the Liberal SDP policy is on nuclear defence. They seem to be at sixes and sevens. Our party is the only one that has a firm policy - firm on independent nuclear defence, firm on defence of everything we believe in and firm, equitable and long-term members of the NATO alliance.

Mr David Wainwright (Walsall, North, Lab) said many Labour supporters would welcome Mr Norman Tebbit.

Mr John Townsend (Bridlington, C): When will the Government stop giving the impression in the country that public expenditure has been reduced when facts show that public expenditure has been increased?

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responsible for putting across the Government's case. Labour supporters could hardly say more.

Mr Thatcher: I do not think Labour supporters have anything to boast about at the present moment.

Mr Hugh Dukes (Harrow, East, C): Is not the reality of economic management that we need all the instruments of economic demand management - lower interest rates, lower taxation and more capital spending on public and private account, to create new jobs?

Mrs Thatcher: I would dearly like to have more capital spending but not total spending. If we want more capital spending, we have to put a higher burden of taxation on the working population.

I do not think we are entitled to put a higher burden of taxation on the 40 per cent of pensioners who pay income tax and then 41 per cent who pay tax and who are below the average male earnings. I think he will find we are following the right overall policy.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, SNP): While reductions in income tax for the lower paid would be welcome, it is grossly offensive to the bulk of wage and salary earners to assume that their first priority is the reduction of income tax.

Most people are not so selfish as to have that as their main aim but would prefer action by the Government to put the unemployed back to work.

Mrs Thatcher: Most people think they are entitled to a larger share of their own hard-earned earnings, in their own pockets. If he takes a different view perhaps he would say how much tax he would put on himself to create more jobs.

Mr John Moore (Financial Secretary to the Treasury): It was one of the products of a meeting yesterday morning of the Joint Leaders' Advisory Committee, composed of senior members of both parties. They had before them a paper prepared by Mr Steel, slightly amended by Mr Owen and then, at his suggestion, submitted in both their names.

This may be a small point, but it suggests that Dr Owen is taking a rather more positive attitude towards the Alliance than has always been the case. The meeting appears to have been constructive, if somewhat rambling. It agreed on a number of detailed measures of practical co-operation, while deliberately avoiding the temptation to begin the general election campaign now.

In the past there has often been no lack of good intentions at the top, but an inability to secure effective coordination in practice. Nowadays the problem seems to be rather different. The planning for combined operations is going ahead. There is no shortage of joint Alliance activities, and the allocation of parliamentary seats is causing so much less anxiety that it was not even discussed yesterday.

It needs, themes, Dr Owen has been offering them, but it is doubtful how far his ideas command the general confidence of both parties. So the Alliance must sort out, and make absolutely clear to the country, what it stands for.

There are joint policy commissions, a joint working group on themes and a commitment to produce a joint programme by the autumn of next year. But the Alliance cannot afford to wait for so long if it is to maintain the momentum of Brecon.

There is also the question of leadership. For the moment it does not matter that Dr Owen and Mr Steel are operating side by side. There may even be advantages in a dual leadership so long as the Alliance is not expected to provide the next Prime Minister. But the case for asking more about forming a government was also discussed yesterday.

The more the Alliance speaks as if this is a serious possibility, the more it will be under pressure to choose a leader before the election. It can hardly fight under the slogan "Vote for an Alliance government" and guess who would be Prime Minister.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

How can the Alliance capitalise on its success at Brecon? The very fact of winning there should strengthen its support around the country. As the third force in British politics, always needing to demonstrate its credibility, the Alliance gains more from victory and suffers more from defeat than the other parties.

But it cannot afford just to sit back and wait for the ripple effects to spread out from mid-Wales to the rest of the United Kingdom.

My impression from the campaign was that much of the support for the Liberal candidate came from negative voting - from many who had previously backed the Conservatives deciding either to protest or to vote tactically. That is all right in a mid-term by-election, which is traditionally an occasion for the expression of grievances. But if the Alliance is to do well in the general election it will have to transform some of these negative votes into positive support.

This could be done partly by its stance on policy and, still more, by demonstrating that it has sorted out its own internal arrangements. Time and again I have heard it said in the past that the Liberals and Social Democrats could hardly hope to run the country if they could not run an alliance properly. Now many of the letters that Liberal MPs have been getting in the aftermath of Brecon have been stressing the need for the two parties to get closer together.

The joint strategy committee, which was announced yesterday by Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen, is a step in that direction. It was one of the products of a meeting yesterday morning of the Joint Leaders' Advisory Committee, composed of senior members of both parties. They had before them a paper prepared by Mr Steel, slightly amended by Mr Owen and then, at his suggestion, submitted in both their names.

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Reinstatement of miners a matter for NCB

COAL DISPUTE

The reinstatement of miners dismissed during or after the recent strike by the National Union of Mineworkers was a matter for the National Coal Board, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment said in the Commons.

Asked about the recent report from the Commons Select Committee on Employment which has looked into the question of reinstatement, he said that he had read the report. The NCB was continuing to review all the dismissal cases area by area in the light of industrial findings.

He understood that there could be no question of reemploying men who had engaged in serious violence against NCB personnel or property. The Government fully supported that view.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft (Leeds, West, Lab) said Mr King should report to the chairman of the NCB to stop him treating differently men in different parts of the country.

Mr King said that this was a point Mr MacGregor took seriously. "No one should underestimate the appalling difficulties and the serious nature of the problems with which the board had to deal. It had been anxious, in the appalling circumstances surrounding the dispute, to deal with it as fairly as possible."

Mr Wetherby (Morley and Leeds, South, Lab) said that the report showed that men who were found guilty but returned to work from the strike early had been reinstated, but men who had been found not guilty but who had stayed on strike had lost their jobs.

Mr King said this must be a matter

for the management of the NCB. Dismissed miners had normal procedures open to them.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab) said that the cardinal principle of industrial relations after any dispute should be reconciliation. Not a single dismissed miner in Scotland had been reinstated.

Mr King said he hoped that the cardinal principle now to be firmly established was that before a dispute there would be a ballot.

Mr John Goss (Hendon, North, C): Will he bear in mind when he replies to the select committee's report that the report was not about unfair dismissal of miners for which there is recourse to an industrial tribunal, but that it was a report about allegations of unfair reinstatement of miners for which there is no recourse to any tribunal?

Mr King: I am somewhat surprised by that statement. I have the report here and it is entitled *The Dismissal of National Coal Board employees*.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham, North East, Lab), chairman of the Select Committee on Employment, said the report did not strike at the merits of the coal strike or the violence and in no way condoned violence.

What did look at the way in which the separate issue of the hard evidence of the manifest unfairness and inconsistency in the coal board's treatment of its dismissed employees, Mr MacGregor, the NCB chairman, under repeated questioning refused to say that he would reinstate those expelled by industrial tribunal.

In all those circumstances, does not the minister think that the proposal that a review should be conducted on the lines of the Acaas code, where each man's case could

be reviewed, is modest? Should he not take heed of that rather than allow these wounds to fester?

Mr King: I am not the only member of the House who found it unbelievable that the select committee reported on this matter without once considering the issue of violence and intimidation that effected a number of people who were never given the opportunity to say they wished to work and who were subjected to the most appalling intimidation. For the select committee to pay no attention to that was a grave omission.

He added later that more than

300 miners had already been reinstated under the procedures operated by the coal board.

Mr Geoffrey Loftus (Pontefract and Castleford, Lab) does he not feel he should reject a system under which person faces trial in court and is found not guilty but is then found guilty by MacGregor's kangaroo court?

Mr King: But they do have access to an industrial tribunal.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee, East, SNP): In Scotland there is no review and no reinstatement, with some miners convicted on charges of violence. They have been singled out for discriminatory treatment. Does not the Scottish situation require his immediate intervention?

Mr King: My understanding is that cases in Scotland are being reviewed on the same basis as elsewhere.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, completion of remaining stages. Lords (12.30): Transport Bill, committee, second day.

Mr King: There are cases where people are dismissed although charges may not be preferred against them. There may be different circumstances existing. There may be circumstances where charges and people still dismissed on other grounds.

He added later that the select committee was bitterly divided. It was the major successful report of the day.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, it is deplorable that the Secretary of State does not have a view about the select committee's recent recommendations on procedure for the view of dismissal.

Since he has stated that he is considering new legislation to deal with the victimisation of people involved in industrial disputes, victimisation by trade unions - is he prepared to consider victimisation by employers and say that all employers must embody the recommendations of Acaas dealing with unfair dismissal?

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Mr King: My understanding is that cases in Scotland are being reviewed on the same basis as elsewhere.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, completion of remaining stages. Lords (12.30): Transport Bill, committee, second day.

TV experiment may continue in autumn

HOUSE OF LORDS

Viccount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, said in the House of Lords question time that the televising of proceedings in the Chamber may continue after the summer recess.

He said that the experiment would end this month and the Select Committee on Television would make a full report before Christmas.

If an interim report were published, he said, it would be possible to decide if and when a decision for the temporary continuation of the present arrangements.

Lord Stairford (Lab) said they should wait for the full report and in the meantime the experiment should continue.

The Interception of Communications Bill was read the third time and passed.

M25 open next year

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said in a Commons written reply that the Government expected to have the M25 open to traffic by the end of 1986. The opening dates of the remaining sections depended on the progress made by individual contractors, which in turn was influenced by weather and ground conditions and by the requirements of sound traffic management.

In a further written reply, Mrs Chalker said that the service area planned for South Mimms would be open by the time the M25 was completed. The three other service areas planned would follow

Labour move to stop tax on works nurseries

FINANCE BILL

A move to stop the Government increasing the tax on workers whose children use employee-provided nurseries was made by the Labour Party in the Commons during the first day of the report stage of the Finance Bill.

Mr Terry Davis, an Opposition spokesman on economic and financial issues, moved a motion to this effect. He said that it was recognised by the trade unions and by many employers that it was in the interests of society that single parents should work to support their children rather than fall back on social security. But if employers provided them with nurseries these parents now had to pay more.

The inland Revenue had not charged nurseries in the past, although strictly speaking it could have done. The Government did not tax employees for the use of employee-provided car parks, canteens, social clubs, the inland Revenue had not charged the equivalent of a nursery, he said.

He said that the Government would not be taxed. Now, following an inquiry in 1984, inland Revenue had decided to tax this.

Sir William Clark (Croydon, South, C) said that parks and the provision of nurseries facilities was a good thing. It was necessary to be fair between one tax-payer and another. Although they all agreed to pay tax, it was unfair to the mother with a works nursery did not

pay tax while the mother, with no such facility had to pay for her child to be looked after out of taxed income.

One of the reasons for the growth in the park industry since the war had been the high rates of taxation under successive governments. He would like to see standard rates starting at 15p in the pound and rising to no more than 40p or 45p.

When the report stage of the Finance Bill started MPs agreed to a new clause to block a tax loophole known as the pre-flick and to a series of new clauses on taxation of companies involved in consortia.

The first new clause, Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, explained, brought to an end the pre-flick, which was being used to avoid payment of stamp duty in certain takeovers.

Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that the second group of clauses allowed greater tax flexibility for companies involved in consortia. The provision would be widely welcomed by shipping companies, the cable television industry and other areas where the project was too large to be financed by one company.

Windsor barracks

Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, announced in a Commons written reply that it was proposed to start the rebuilding of Windsor Barracks in December next year. The expected completion date was June 1989 and the barracks would be occupied by a battalion of foot guards.

Blacklist of lorry offenders

A blacklist of over loaded lorries is to be kept by the Department of Transport in an effort to tighten the noose around persistent offenders who damage Britain's roads. It is expected to lead to tougher penalties and a higher rate of detection for lorry firms who persistently overload.

A computerised register of convictions is to be set up jointly by the Department and the Local Authority Co-ordination Body on Trading Standards to back up the expanding network of checkpoints being established throughout the country.

Another 30 weighbridge sites are planned in addition to the 51 already operating, and fines of up to £200 are imposed on lorry firms found to be overloaded.

Of 60,000 lorries checked on the roads last year, 18 per cent of British and 28 per cent of foreign were too heavy.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, minister of state for transport said yesterday that new measure "demonstrates the Government's strong commitment to effective enforcement."

Commercial whaling ban in jeopardy

Conservationists are concerned that a 1982 ban on commercial whaling may be in jeopardy, and the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) due to begin on Monday in Bournemouth, could bring about its collapse.

The ban is to come into effect next year but four of the 40 member countries, Japan, Brazil, Iceland and Norway, are resisting it by exploiting a provision in IWC regulations that whaling countries can take whales for scientific research.

That exploitation has already occurred on such a large scale it makes IWC catch limits on certain species ineffective, according to the World Wildlife Fund.

Local ombudsmen seek power against injustice

England's three local ombudsmen make an urgent plea for stronger powers to seek out and remedy maladministration and injustice by local councils in their annual report, published today.

They say that, although the bulk of local authorities accept the local ombudsman's findings, a minority persist in refusing to redress grievances.

Since they were set up by parliament in 1974 the three commissioners have issued 1,619 reports finding maladministration and injustice by local councils. In 1,442 cases there was a satisfactory settlement, but in 92 cases 16 per cent, the councils concerned failed to react to the ombudsmen's criticism.

The ombudsmen say: "The time has come for a considerable reform of the service."

They are particularly anxious about the continuing need for second reports to be issued. Further reports only follow

when a council fails to remedy legitimate grievances, and 128 have had to be issued over the past 11 years. Even then, the report says, remedies have followed in only 27 cases.



Geoffrey Smith

Commentary

How can the Alliance...

My impression from...

Positive attitude towards Alliance

The joint strategy...

This may be a small...

Joint programme by autumn

But none of this...

There is also the...

'Euphoric' visit of King marks new era in French-Spanish relations

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The revival of close friendship and co-operation between France and Spain after nearly two centuries of tensions, friction and misunderstanding...

M. Michel Vauzelle, the official Elysee spokesman, said the signing marked the 'apotheosis' of the three-day official visit to France of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia.

The joint declaration sets up a formal structure of regular Franco-Spanish summits and bilateral ministerial meetings in the fields of economy, culture and defence...

Speaking after a gala dinner given in honour of the Spanish King and Queen at the Elysee on Monday night, President Mitterrand said he believed 'a page has truly been turned in the relations between our two countries'.

strated its sincerity in wanting to help tackle the Basque terrorist problem by extraditing for the first time three suspected terrorists to Spain.

Relations between France and Spain have never been easy, particularly since the Napoleonic invasion of the Iberian peninsula...

An anticipated removal of those tensions with coming to power of the Spanish socialists in 1982 did not immediately materialize.

Over the last two years, however, much has changed. France recast itself in the role of a leading champion for Spain's early entry into the Common Market...

King Juan Carlos is due to return to Spain tonight after visiting the French Aerospace factory in Cannes where telecommunications satellites and material for guiding ballistic missiles are made.

That is not to say that the fierce disputes between French and Spanish fishermen and farmers will not continue, however, nor that the two peoples will immediately take each other to their hearts.

As a poll published last month showed, the Spanish still regard the French with considerable suspicion and even animosity, and resent what they regard as an attitude of disdainful superiority and arrogance on the part of the French.

The poll showed that 55 per cent of the Spanish believe France to be hostile towards Spain, and 61 per cent consider it an 'annoying' neighbour.

The French, however, have quite a different view of Spain, three-quarters believing it to be a friend of France, and nearly two-thirds considering it a 'pleasant' neighbour.

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King Juan Carlos and President Mitterrand at the Elysee Palace after signing the declaration.

Posthumous acquittal for murder case wife

From David Watts Tokyo

Almost six years after she died, claiming innocence to the last, a Japanese woman who spent 13 years in prison for the murder of her common-law husband has been cleared of the crime.

Miss Shigeo Fuji was posthumously acquitted yesterday by the Tokushima district court, 32 years after the crime was committed. It was the first such re-trial in Japan.

Miss Fuji was originally convicted on the evidence of two youths, then minors, who worked in the radio shop run by Mr Kamesaburo Sagusa, with whom Miss Fuji lived.

The two boys said they saw Miss Fuji struggling with the victim, and later disposed of a knife on her behalf. The two later retracted their evidence, saying it had been given under pressure.

Miss Fuji withdrew a planned appeal against the conviction when it became clear that the legal proceedings would use up most of the money available for the education of her children.

Border deal on markers by Greece and Albania

From Mario Modiano Athens

Greece and Albania have agreed to restore markers along their common land border as a protection against frontier incidents. A protocol signed in Athens at the end of a week-long visit by a four-member Albanian military delegation also set down rules for the settlement of border disputes.

This was the first time in more than 45 years that Albanian officers had set foot in Athens. Frontier security to Albania comes under the jurisdiction of the Interior Ministry.

Greek officials said the repair or replacement of the concrete blocks that mark the 154 mile frontier would prevent incidents such as one in 1983 when Albanian frontier guards shot at two Greek villagers who had strayed across the unmarked border during a hunting trip. One was killed.

The two countries re-affirmed their desire to improve relations after the death of the Albanian leader, Mr Enver Hoxha, last April, and plan negotiations to delineate the boundary dividing their continental shelf, especially in the area between the Albanian coast and the Greek island of Corfu.

Efforts by Mr Hoxha's successor, Mr Ramiz Alia, to regularize Albania's external relations are not limited to Greece.

Letter from Tokyo

British pioneers test an ethic

Shortly after he arrived in Japan one of the supervisors being trained by Nissan for its new factory in North-East England was asked what he liked to eat.

Spaghetti was his favourite dish, he replied, but he also liked steak. At dinner a few nights later with the family of his opposite number at Nissan, the wife brought in a spaghetti dish fit for any Roman table.

The wife's concern was not merely another expression of the often staggering lengths to which Japanese will go to entertain visitors but of the essence that Nissan will bring to its new plant.

The supervisors who have returned to Britain at the end of their training went imbued with a feeling that they are engaged in nothing less than a new industrial revolution in the North-East, the heirs of those who built the Tyne bridge, as one of them put it.

The fact that their work practices and organizational methods will owe more to Oppama, Japan, than Sunderland has little or nothing to do with it.

Admittedly, they were hand-picked by Nissan, only 22 surviving of 3,500 interviewed, and have gone through what one of them called 'a salmon stream of tests'.

The challenge presented by bringing a group of Englishmen from varying backgrounds, many with no previous experience in the industry, and training them to a Japanese environment, where culture and custom present such vastly different faces and where communication can be extremely difficult, was enormous.

The suspicion, certainly among elements of the British press, was that they would be turned into mindless automatons, squeezed into the same mould which produces such good results in Japan. But by the very nature of the men Nissan chose, they were unlikely to become prisoners of the Japanese system.

Take the notorious morning exercises which so many foreigners consider the ultimate expression of Japan Inc. 'They told us that we could join the morning exercises if we wanted. Sometimes we take part, sometimes not, but we have found that they do create a feeling of teamwork,' one of the supervisors said.

'Morning exercises are one of the things we may take with us to the British plant. What we do in the British plant will be very much up to us. We want to combine the best of Britain and the best of Japan, and one of the good things about Japan is teamwork.'

The fact that Nissan usually has one of its staff present at interviews with the press has been like a red rag to a bull to some correspondents, who have then gone to extraordinary lengths to get the 'real' story.

At first, the supervisors were quite keen to see the press, both British and Japanese. But after some exotic attempts to entice them by one British newspaper and endless questions about Mrs Margaret Thatcher and trade friction from the Japanese press, their interest waned.

Though some will undoubtedly see them as part of a kind of Japanese Trojan Horse working their way into the European market since local content will qualify their products as British cars, the Sunderland pioneers are actually taking on the Japanese at their own game.

BRITISH COAL. MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE ON SAVING COSTS. John Smith's of Tadcaster brew over 300 million pints of beer a year... COAL

Chinese visit to sign trade deal with Russia

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Yao Yilin, the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, arrived in Moscow yesterday to sign a new five-year trade agreement with Russia, saying that he hoped his eight-day visit would help to 'promote normalization of Sino-Soviet relations'.

Moscow and Peking have been engaged in slow-moving 'normalization' talks since the late President Brezhnev's 'opening to China' in 1982, but have made little progress. There remains profound suspicion and hostility between the two Communist powers, but trade contacts are seen as a way of restoring good relations.

In a speech in the Ukraine last month Mr Mikhail Gorbachev said time had shown that neither side gained from discord - 'let alone unfriendliness and suspicion'. The Soviet leader said Russia would energetically seek the 'complete removal of the negative period in relations'.

Trade between Russia and China last year doubled to reach nearly a thousand million roubles (\$98 million) and consulates are to be reopened in Shanghai and Leningrad.

For foreign diplomats - and Russians - one of the main points of interest in Mr Yao's visit is not much Sino-Soviet politics as the impending refurbishment of the Chinese restaurant in the Hotel Peking, on Gorky Square.

Once a symbol of close Chinese-Russian ties, the hotel and its food have suffered a sad decline during Sino-Soviet hostility, but the Chinese Deputy Premier is said to have brought a new regime of chefs, equipment and supplies with him.

Mr Yao was met by Mr Ivan Arkhipov, the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, who last year - after an initial hiccup and last minute cancellation - became the most senior Soviet official to visit Peking for some years.

What makes sense for companies like John Smith's, ICI, Express Dairy, Hotpoint and British Aerospace also makes sense for the whole of British industry.

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John Smith's say: 'With coal we can realise savings on our energy and ancillary costs. We also achieve efficiency and cleanliness of operation'.

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The coal is washed 'smalls' transported by a dense phase pneumatic conveyor to the boiler in overhead bunkers. Ash is also moved by a totally enclosed pneumatic transport system. All steam raising operations and handling are automatically controlled and fully integrated to ensure continuous operation.

John Smith's say: 'With coal we can realise savings on our energy and ancillary costs. We also achieve efficiency and cleanliness of operation'.

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Name: Company: Address:

NCB THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO CONVERT TO BRITISH COAL.

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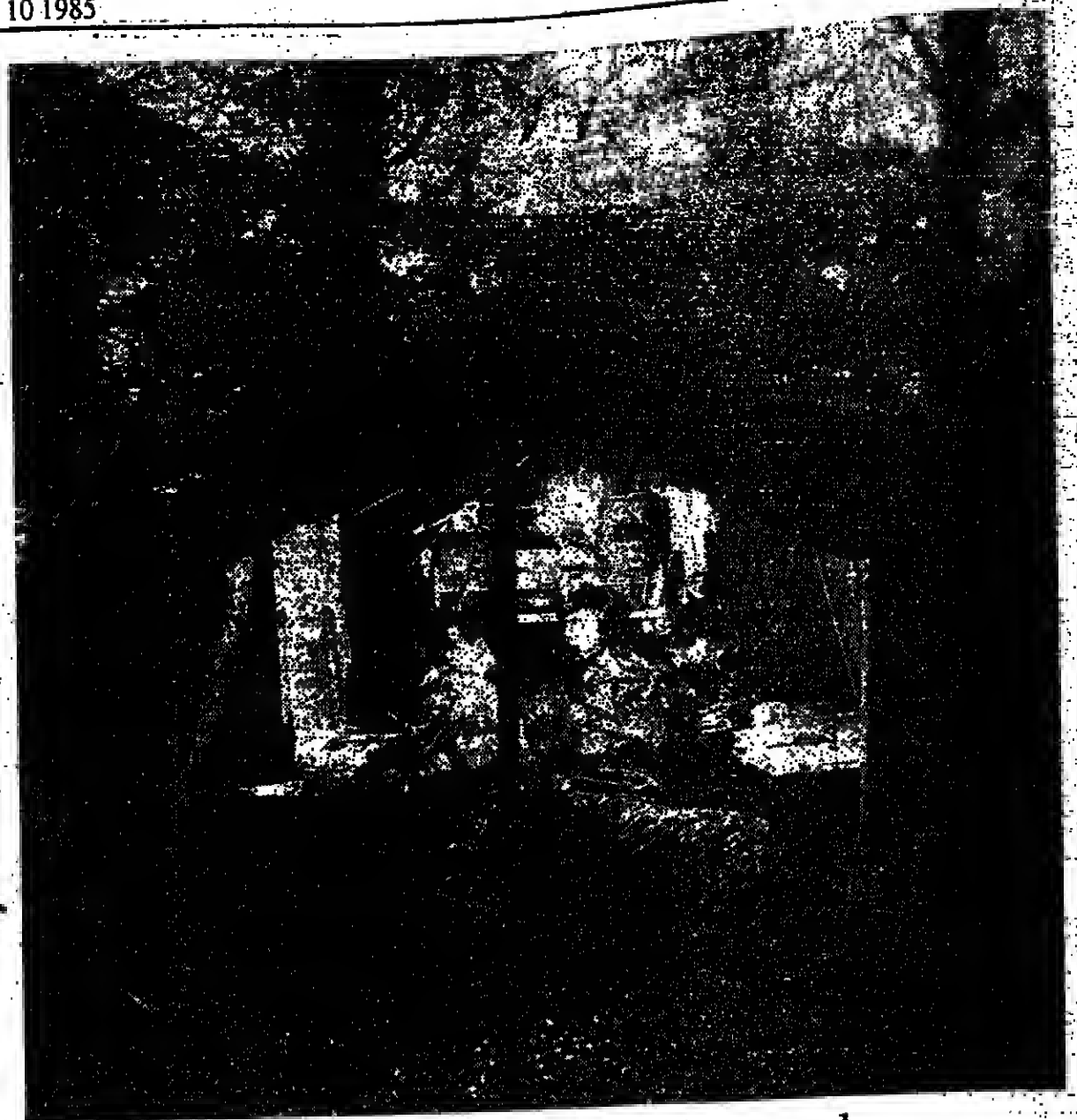
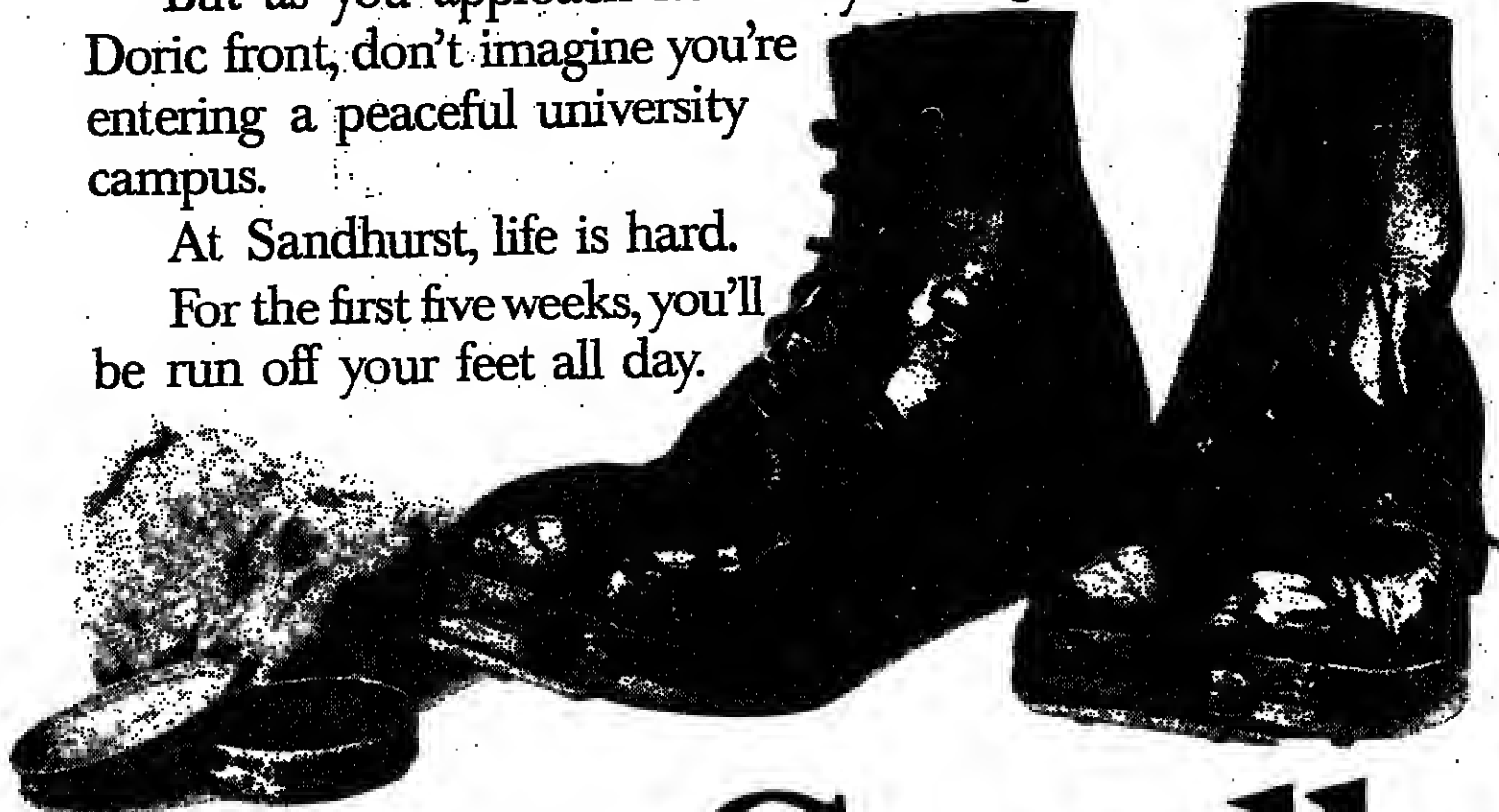
But as you approach its stately Doric front, don't imagine you're entering a peaceful university campus.

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We don't know a single officer who isn't proud he went to Sandhurst.

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Sandhurst is, after all, an academy. And now more than ever an officer needs a well-furnished brain. Weapons systems are complex, and your soldiers will need intelligent management.

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And because our officer cadets are so carefully chosen, the failure rate is low.

Life at Sandhurst is by no means all pain.

You'll make life-long friendships.



Army Officer

**Zia rules
out quick
end to
martial law**

Islamabad - President Hafeezullah has refused any date to end the years of martial law. He told journalists in a news conference that the political, administrative and economic changes needed to be strong before martial law could be lifted.

General Zia's statements seem to contradict earlier statements by Mr. Hafeezullah in Parliament that the law would end as soon as Parliament had approved a new constitution based on recommendations from two committees.

**Chambers en
official visit**

Mr. George Chambers, Minister of Finance, Tobago, who is on an official visit to the United Kingdom, yesterday visited the Department of Industry and Commerce, City of London.

Oil prices, international problems and the health of the British economy were the main topics of discussion at a meeting in the City of London on October 10.

**Death without
trial for plot**

London - A man involved in a plot to overthrow the Government of the United Kingdom has been sentenced to death without trial. The man, Mr. Farooq Ahmad, was found guilty of the crime.

**Grand Duch
Charlotte di**

London - The Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, Charlotte, has been named as the bride for Prince Henri of Monaco. The wedding is scheduled for next year.

Briton charged

London - A British man has been charged with the murder of a man in Singapore. The man, who is a British citizen, is accused of killing a man in a hotel in Singapore.

No extradition

London - The British Government has refused to extradite a man to the United States. The man is accused of a crime in the United States.

Gandhi

Circumstances led India to believe that Pakistan is in the process of making a nuclear bomb. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said on television last night.

But he will not himself on his own men's intentions, saying to deny outright might pursue a nuclear

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Lloyds Bank

Zia rules out quick end to martial law

Islamabad - President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan has refused to fix any date to end the eight years of martial law (Hasan Akhtar writes).

He told journalists in Karachi that evolving a political structure, administrative machinery needed to be strengthened before martial law could be lifted.

General Zia's statement seems to conflict with recent statements by Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister, in Parliament that martial law would end as soon as Parliament had approved a Bill based on recommendations from two committees.

Chambers ends official visit

Mr George Chambers, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, who is trying to diversify the economy of his oil-rich Caribbean domain, ended an official visit to Britain yesterday with talks at the Department of Trade and Industry and a meeting with City financiers (Henry Stanhope writes).

Oil prices, international drug problems and the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in the Bahamas next October were the main focal points of discussion during talks at Number Ten with Mrs Thatcher during his two days in Britain.

Death without trial for plotters

London (AFP) - All those involved in last week's failed coup against Guinea's military Government will be executed without trial, Foreign Minister Mr Faicnet Toure has confirmed.

He told reporters that some of the 30 arrested after last Thursday's coup attempt also had been detained after an earlier attempt to seize power last January, when 41 people had been arrested.

Grand Duchess Charlotte dies

Luxembourg (Reuters) - Grand Duchess Charlotte, revered here for her wartime broadcasts from Britain, died at her country home aged 89. She ruled the country from 1919 to 1964.

After the Nazi invasion in 1940, she fled from Luxembourg and travelled widely in Britain and the US in support of the Allied war effort.

Briton charged

Noumea (AFP) - Malcolm Ross, aged 44, a British citizen living in Australia, was charged here with smuggling more than 14lb of heroin valued at about US\$330,000 into New Caledonia. He was arrested here after arriving from Bombay via Singapore.

No extradition

Ankara (AFP) - Turkey ruled out extraditing Bekir Celenk, one of five Turks accused in Italy of complicity in a 1981 attempt to kill the Pope.

Police kill seven blacks in raid on township funeral vigil

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

At least seven people were shot dead by police yesterday after what the authorities said were attacks by petrol-bomb throwing mobs on black policemen's homes in Kwathema township, near Springs, east of Johannesburg.

But township residents claimed they came under unprovoked police attack when tear gas was thrown into a cinema where they were holding an all-night vigil before the funeral yesterday of four youths killed when grenades exploded in their hands last month.

A police directorate spokesman denied that people had been driven out of the cinema with tear gas but the *Johannesburg Star* newspaper said its reporters found the floors and walls splattered with blood and the steel doors riddled with bullet marks.

Residents told the newspaper that police fired rubber bullets and tear gas into the cinema shortly after midnight and as people scrambled outside in panic they came under fire. Six were killed on the spot.

The police version was that action was taken against rioters who threw a petrol bomb at a policeman's house and stoned another policeman's home. They fled into the cinema, where 30 were arrested.

Nobody was injured or shot at in the cinema, the spokesman said, but seven men were killed when the police opened fire with birdshot and pistols to disperse the crowd attacking the policeman's homes.

Community leaders in Kwathema and the nearby Duduza and Tsakane townships yesterday called on the Government to appoint an independent commission of inquiry into recent police action in the area.

This follows reports, which the authorities have described as "calculated lies", that police have disguised themselves in balaclava helmets before attacking township residents. Newspaper photographs have clearly shown balaclava-clad police in action.

Yesterday General Johann Coetzee, Commissioner of Police, said that people accusing the police of being behind the worsening unrest should come forward with the facts.

"Allegations that policemen disguise themselves, shoot people in cold blood and abduct others are heresy of all truth," he said. "It is the right of all persons in any part of South Africa to supply police with information that can help solve a crime."

But township leaders asked what was the point of giving facts to the man being accused. They called on the Government to appoint an independent commission of inquiry which could approach the families of people killed.

Late yesterday two youths were shot and seriously wounded as crowds clashed with police as they left the funeral of the grenade victims. Outside a soccer stadium where the funeral service was attended by thousands of people, a police car was set on fire in retaliation.

South Africa locks out protest group

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A group of Irish anti-apartheid campaigners was escorted aboard a London-bound jet here last night after being refused entry into South Africa.

The group, led by Miss Mary Manning, the Dunnes Stores supermarket check-out girl who refused to ring up South African fruit on her till and sparked a year-long strike, flew out from Johannesburg in the same British Airways aircraft that had arrived with them seven hours earlier.

They were to have been guests for two weeks of the South African Council of Churches.

A Home Affairs Ministry spokesman said in Pretoria that three Irish citizens who arrived on the same flight were being allowed to enter South Africa as tourists but the anti-apartheid group of 10 women was being refused entry.

Mr Stoffel Botha, Home Affairs Minister, described the affair as "sordid" and said the group's sole purpose was "to fuel their own prejudices and bring the South African Government into disrepute".

He said that Miss Manning and an unidentified companion

were originally told they were welcome to visit South Africa but six others accompanying them were informed that visa exemptions they enjoyed as Irish or British citizens had been revoked and that they should apply for visas before travelling.

They ignored this injunction and it also turned out that the party comprised more people than the original eight.

Mr Botha said: "Events have demonstrated that Miss Manning and her companion were either the instigators of or participants in an underhand ploy calculated to embarrass the South African Government. It is clear that the guests of the SACC and the group as a whole had no interest whatsoever in the welfare of the communities in this country affected by the disinvestment and boycott campaign overseas."

A council of churches spokesman said: "They should have been allowed to come in and see the situation in which blacks live and to see the face of apartheid for themselves. South Africa always says that people must come and see the situation for themselves."

And just recently there was the case in the United States where the Pakistani individual was caught trying to smuggle out 50 triggering devices for nuclear weapons.

Mr Gandhi also claimed to have hard evidence from the FBI and also on television film of terrorist schools within the United States where Sikh extremists have been trained.

Gun shown to Gandhi plot trial

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The special .38 revolver allegedly used to murder Mrs Indira Gandhi was exhibited at the trial here yesterday of three men said to have planned her killing.

Wrapped in a white handkerchief with red seals, the gun said to have been used by Beant Singh, himself shot dead in the attack, to assassinate the former Indian Prime Minister was unwrapped before the judge, Mahesh Chandra, in the court room at Tihar Jail in Delhi's Central Prison.

Assistant sub-inspector Dhanraj Singh told the court that he was on duty at a wicket gate separating Mrs Gandhi's home, 1 Safdarjung Road, from a building housing her staff offices throughout the night and at 7.30am on the morning of the killing was relieved by Beant Singh.

He handed Beant Singh the revolver in its holster and 18 live cartridges for the gun.

Yesterday the gun was then handed to the judge who nursed it carefully before handing it in his hands and handing it to the prosecution lawyer, Mr K. Arora, who held it aloft for the court, packed with 47 people, to see.

The hearing continues today.



Angry youths at the funeral in Kwathema escorting vehicles carrying the bodies of four blacks killed by grenades last month. Thousands of mourners gathered at the township's stadium to hear a funeral sermon.

Rail bridge collapse delays famine aid

From Gill Lusk, Khartoum

The collapse of a railway bridge in western Sudan at the weekend will delay thousands of tonnes of desperately needed food from reaching the country's famine-stricken Darfur region.

Government and donor organisations were holding urgent meetings yesterday and today to decide on measures to mitigate this latest disaster in a string of holdups to one of the world's largest relief operations.

The accident, which reportedly killed two people as two locomotives and nine wagons fell into the Hamadi River in Kordofan region, highlights the enormous logistics problems

confronting the shipment of food to Darfur and other famine areas. The 20 metre bridge over the normally dry river bed was swept away when torrential rains provoked a flash flood that breached the El Obeid-Kadugli road, newly constructed by a Dutch company.

The Dutch Government has now offered to help finance the cost of rebuilding the bridge. "If the train involved had been a passenger train", said one official, "there could have been more than 1,000 killed."

Rebuilding the bridge could take weeks if not months, say officials, as plant access to the

site is currently impossible due to bad weather conditions. Experts hope to build a detour, expected to take at least a week, which itself could be threatened by further heavy rain.

Even a week's further delay, which some believe is optimistic, means that around 6,000 tonnes of grain supplied by the US Agency for International Development will fail to reach Darfur at recent delivery rates. Donors are therefore examining further emergency steps "I'd now like to think that we'd get into air dropping much faster", an EEC official said.

A spokesman for USAid said

the US Government is "still exploring the possibility of using aircraft".

Pressure for aid drops has been growing as rail and road continue to fail to move sufficient quantities of grain. But with air costs dauntingly high, donors have continued to put the emphasis on cheaper means. The EEC is expected to sign a contract today to finance trucking for the League of Red Cross Societies and USAid this week announced that they would supply a further 100 lorries for contractors Arked-Tatab. The firm is now moving more than 3,000 tonnes of USAid grain a day.

500 Soviet and Afghan troops dead or captured

From Richard Ford, Delhi

Resistance fighters in a strategically important valley north of Kabul are continuing to inflict heavy casualties on Soviet and Afghan troops, according to Western diplomats in Delhi.

The Mujahidin guerrillas have attacked convoys carrying soldiers and petrol along the Panjshir Valley, and according to one report up to 350 Afghan soldiers are believed to have died in an attack between Amwa and Gulbaker at the beginning of the month.

One source has reported that up to 500 Soviet and Afghan troops may have been killed or captured during the last few weeks in operations in the valley. The continuing conflict in the Panjshir is, according to diplomatic sources, causing serious manpower shortages and they say that some guards from embassies in Kabul have been ordered to go to the valley.

In Kabul, where a guerrilla rocket attack landed inside the Soviet embassy compound on the night of July 2-3, injuring six guards, there has been an increased effort to get conscripts. One source claimed that even men who had completed military service were being rounded up.

Losses among the elite 444 commando battalion have, according to a diplomatic source, reduced its strength by 80 per cent, either by casualties or desertion. In an attempt to reinforce the troop's strength two battalions, 2,400 men, from the Afghan Eighth Division have been sent to the Panjshir, though these two are not fully effective because of a heavy casualty rate.

It is reported that the Salang to Kabul road has been closed to civilian traffic on several days during the last two weeks, though at least one lorry carrying beer was able to pass after paying tolls to young Mujahidin.

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Law Report July 10 1985 Privy Council

Limit to bank customer's duty of care to prevent forgery of cheques

Tai Hing Cotton Mill Ltd v Liu Chong Hing Bank Ltd and Others
Before Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman
[Judgment delivered July 5]

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council held that banks which had paid out on forged cheques were not entitled to debit the customer's account with the amount since, unless it was otherwise agreed, the only duty of care owed by a customer to his bank in the operation of a current account was to exercise reasonable care in drawing his cheques and to notify the bank of any forgery of which he became aware, and he did not owe a duty to the bank in contract or in tort to take such precautions as a reasonable customer in his position would take to prevent forged cheques being presented to his bank for payment, or to notify the bank of any items debited therefrom which were not or may not have been authorized by him.

Their Lordships allowed an appeal by the plaintiff company, Tai Hing Cotton Mill Ltd, from a decision of the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong on January 27, 1984 (1984) 1 Lloyd's Rep 555) who dismissed the company's appeal and allowed a cross-appeal by the first defendant, Liu Chong Hing Bank Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice Mantell, who dismissed the company's claim for declarations that the first defendant was not entitled to debit the company's account with HK\$3,082,214 save in relation to \$187,195; the second defendant, Bank of Tokyo Ltd, with \$809,804; and the third defendant, Cheong Cheong Bank Ltd, with \$1,549,070; being sums paid by the banks in relation to cheques on which the drawer's signature had been forged.

Sir Patrick Neill, QC, Mr Nicolas Braza and Mr Robert Tong (the latter of the Hong Kong Bar) for the company; Mr Andrew Morris, QC, Mr Oswald Cheung, QC and Mr Andrew Li (the latter two of the Hong Kong Bar) for the first defendant bank; Mr Neville Thomas, QC and Mr John Jarvis for the second defendant bank; Mr Peter Horsfield, QC and Mrs Doreen Le Pichon for the third defendant bank.

LORD SCARMAN said that the appeal raised a question of general principle in the law.

The company was a customer of the three banks, and maintained a current account with each of them. The banks honoured by payment on presentation some 300 cheques totalling approximately \$5.5 million which on their face appeared to have been drawn by the company and to bear the signature of Mr Chen, the company's managing director.

The banks in each instance debited the company's account with the amount of the cheque. The cheques were not the company's cheques but forgeries. On each Mr Chen's signature had been forged by an accounts clerk employed by the company, Leung Wing Ling.

The central issue in the appeal was upon whom the loss arising from Leung's forgeries was to fall, the company or the banks. The question of general principle was as to the nature and extent of the duty of care owed by a customer to his bank in the operation of a current account.

The company's submission was that, unless banker and customer otherwise agreed, the customer's duty was limited to two sets of circumstances.

First, the customer had to exercise reasonable care in drawing his cheques. If a breach of that duty caused the bank to pay on the cheque, the customer bore the loss. Otherwise, if the signature was forged, it was not his cheque and the bank had no authority to pay it or to debit it to the customer's account. The loss fell on the bank.

Second, the customer had to notify the bank of any forgery of which he became aware so as to enable the bank to take adequate precautions against future loss.

The submission of the banks was that the relationship of banker and customer gave rise in contract and in tort to a duty owed by the customer to the bank to exercise such precautions as a reasonable customer in his position would take to prevent forged cheques being presented to the bank (the wider duty); or at the very least to check his monthly or other periodic bank statements so as to be able to notify the bank of any items which were not, or might not have been, authorized by him (the narrower duty).

The company and the banks accepted that Hong Kong law on the point was the same as English law, but they differed fundamentally as to what the law of England was.

If the banks failed on the general point they relied on their banking contracts with the company and, if they could not escape by contract, they sought protection by way of

estoppel, submitting that the company was estopped by its own conduct from asserting that the various accounts were incorrectly debited.

Finally, if the company succeeded in obtaining an order for repayment of any of the sums debited, there was an issue as to whether the bank was liable to pay interest on the sum so debited.

The company was a textile manufacturer in Hong Kong. In 1972 the company took Leung into its employment. He was dishonest but he was trusted until 1978 when he was exposed. Between 1972 and 1978 he made away with some \$7 million by fraud and forgery.

He was in a position to manipulate the accounts for which he was responsible; and the company's system of internal control was ill-designed either to prevent fraud or to find out about it afterwards.

Specifically the judge found that there was a failure to check or supervise Leung's reconciliation of the monthly bank statements with the cash books of the company. The judge summed up his view of the company's system of internal financial control as unsound and, from the point of view of preventing or detecting fraud, inadequate.

Frauds were uncovered in May 1978 when a newly appointed accountant entered upon the task not previously undertaken of reconciling the bank statements with the company's books. He realized something was seriously wrong and reported to Mr Chen, Leung admitted the frauds.

On the question of general principle the judge accepted the company's submission and rejected both of the two alternative formulations of duty put forward by the banks. He held that the company by failing to challenge the bank's statements had represented that the debts had been correctly made.

He held that Tokyo and Cheong had acted in reliance upon those representations by their willingness to continue operating their accounts and to expose themselves to the risk of paying out on forged cheques, but the same prejudice had not been suffered by Liu Chong Hing which only became exposed to the fraud in November 1977.

The judge gave the company judgment against Liu Chong Hing but dismissed its claims against the other two banks.

The company appealed and Liu Chong Hing cross-appealed. The Court of Appeal held that the banker/customer relationship was such as to give rise to a general duty of care in the operation of its banking accounts, and the account was in breach of duty and had to bear the loss. The banks emerged from the Court of Appeal with total defeat and now appealed.

The question of general principle could be framed in two ways. If put in terms of the law's development, it was whether two House of Lords decisions, one in 1918 and the other in 1933, represented the existing law.

If put in terms of principle, it was whether English law recognized today any duty of care owed by the customer to his bank in the operation of a current account beyond, first, a duty to refrain from drawing a cheque in such a manner as might facilitate fraud or forgery, and second, a duty to inform the bank of any forgery of a cheque drawn on a current account as soon as he became aware of it.

The first duty was clearly enunciated by the House of Lords in *London Joint Stock Bank Ltd v Macmillan* (1918) AC 777, and the second was laid down by the House of Lords in *Greenwood v Martins Bank Ltd* (1933) AC 51.

The banks accepted that both duties existed and had been recognized for many years to be part of the law of contract and the law of tort. Their case was that English law recognized today, even if it did not in 1918 or 1933, an altogether wider duty of care, namely the wider and narrower duties for which they contended.

They submitted that, given the relationship of banker and customer and the practice of rendering periodic bank statements, such duties were "necessary incidents" of the relationship. They said the source of obligation was to be found both in contract law and in the tort law as a civil obligation arising from the relationship of banker and customer.

The banks accepted that *Macmillan*'s case appeared to negative the existence of both those duties but said that the law of contract and the law of tort were significantly different in 1918 from the relevant modern law. They pointed to developments in the law relating to the circumstances in which courts would now imply a term into a contract, and to the changes in tort law as to the range of relationships giving rise to liability in tort and as to the circumstances in which loss

or damage would be held to result from breach of a duty of care. Their implied term point they based on *Liverpool City Council v Irwin* (1977) AC 239; and their two tort points on *The Wagon Mound* (1961) AC 388 and *Yong v Merton London Borough Council* (1978) AC 728.

The Court of Appeal accepted the banks' submissions, and if that was correct the appeal would have to be dismissed because there was no challenge to the judge's finding that, if either of the two duties for which the banks contended existed, the company was in breach of its obligations to the banks.

Macmillan's case decided that the customer owed his bank a duty to draw cheques with reasonable care to prevent forgery and, if owing to neglect of that duty, forgery took place, the customer was liable to the bank for the loss.

In so formulating the duty the House of Lords excluded as a necessary incident of the banker/customer relationship any wider duty, although of course it was always open to a banker to refuse to do business save upon express terms including such a duty.

The House of Lords approved the judgment of Mr Justice Bray in *Keshidgalla Rubber Estates Ltd v National Bank of India Ltd* (1909) 2 KB 1010, that, while it was the duty of a customer in issuing his mandates (that is, his cheques) to his bank to take reasonable care not to mislead the bank, there was no duty on the customer to take precautions in the general course of carrying on his business to prevent forgeries on the part of his servants.

Put in terms of the banks' submission in this case Mr Justice Bray negated the existence of the two duties contended for and the House of Lords in *Macmillan*'s case agreed.

So far as English law was concerned *Macmillan*'s case had

until now been accepted as a binding precedent on the question under consideration, although leading writers on banking law, notably Sir John Paget, and many of the banking community had never extended it a very warm welcome.

The trial judge had correctly held himself bound to follow the decision

The banks sought to attack the authority of *Macmillan* in a number of ways. Their least plausible attack was the submission that the decision could be reviewed because it proceeded on a now outmoded and rejected view of the nature of the causal link which the law required to be proved between breach of duty and damage if a plaintiff was to recover damages in an action based on the tort of negligence.

It was true that *Macmillan*'s case was decided before *The Wagon Mound* substituted "foreseeability" for "direct cause" as the test of liability in such cases. But it was a travesty of the reasoning in *Macmillan*'s case to suggest that causation in the law of tort had anything to do with limiting the duty of care of the customer to the transaction of drawing the cheque.

Indeed the speeches proceeded on the basis that the relationship between banker and customer was contractual and that its incidents, in the absence of express agreement, were such as had to be implied in to the contract because they could be seen to be obviously necessary.

The weightier submissions advanced by the banks on the general question were that the duties for which they contended had to be implied into the contract, or alternatively that such duties arose in tort from the relationship between banker and customer.

With regard to the implied term the test of implication was necessary, or alternatively that such duties arose in tort from the relationship between banker and customer.

Imposition was apt to describe a duty arising in tort but inapt to describe the necessary incident arising from a contractual relationship. *Macmillan*'s case, decisively illustrated that it was not a necessary incident of the banker/customer relationship that the customer should owe his banker the wider or narrower duty of care.

The relationship between banker and customer was a matter of contract. The classic, though not necessarily exhaustive, analysis of the incidents of the contract was to be found in the judgment of Lord Justice Atkin in *Joachimson v Swiss Bank Corporation* (1921) 3 KB 110, 127. He clearly felt no difficulty in analysing the relationship upon the basis of the limited duty enunciated in *Macmillan*'s case.

The argument for the banks was, when analysed, no more than that the obligations of care placed upon banks in the management of a customer's account which the courts had recognized had become with the development of banking business so burdensome that they should be met by a reciprocal increase of responsibility imposed upon the customer.

One could fully understand the comment of Justice of Appeal Coss in the Court of Appeal that the banks had today to look for protection. So be it. They could increase the severity of their terms of business, and they could use their influence, as they had in the past, to seek to persuade the legislature that they should be granted by statute further protection.

But it did not follow that because they might need protection as their business expanded the necessary incidents of their relationship with their customer also had to change. The business of banking was the business not of the customer but of the bank. They offered a service, which was to honour their customer's cheques when drawn upon an account in credit or within an agreed overdraft limit.

If they paid out upon cheques which were not his, they were acting outside their mandate and could not plead his authority in justification of their debit to his account. That was a risk of the service which it was their business to offer.

The limits set to the risk in the *Macmillan* and *Greenwood* cases could be seen to be plainly necessary incidents of the relationship. Offered such a service, customer obviously had to take care to the way he drew his cheque, and obviously had to warn the bank as soon as he knew that a forged was operating his account. Their Lordships rejected the implied-term submission.

Their Lordships did not believe that there was anything to be gained by the law's development in searching for a liability in tort where the parties were in a contractual relationship. That was particularly so in a commercial relationship.

Though it was possible as a matter of legal semantics to conduct an analysis of the rights and duties inherent in some contractual relationships including that of banker and customer, either as a matter of contract law when the question would be what, if any, terms were to be implied, or as a matter of tort law when the task would be to identify a duty arising from the proximity and character of the relationship between the parties, their Lordships believed it to be correct in principle and necessary for the avoidance of confusion in the law to adhere to the contractual analysis on principle because it was a relationship in which the parties had subject to a few exceptions, the right to determine their obligations to each other, and for the avoidance of confusion because different consequences followed according to whether liability arose from contract or tort, for example, in the limitation of action.

Their Lordships did not, therefore, embark on an investigation as to whether in the relationship of banker and customer it was possible to identify tort as well as contract as a source of the obligations owed by one to the other. Their Lordships did not, however, accept that the parties' mutual obligations to tort could be any greater than those to be found "expressly" or by necessary implication in their contract.

If as had been contended on duty wider than that recognized in *Macmillan* and *Greenwood* could be implied into the banking contract in the absence of express terms to that effect, the banks could not rely on the law of tort to provide them with greater protection than that for which they had contracted.

It was suggested that even if English courts were bound to follow the decision in *Macmillan*'s case the Judicial Committee was not so constrained. That was a misapprehension. Once it was accepted that the applicable law was English, the Judicial Committee would follow a House of Lords' decision which covered the point in issue.

The Judicial Committee was not the final judicial authority for the determination of English law. That was the responsibility of the House of Lords in its judicial capacity.

Though the Judicial Committee enjoyed greater freedom from the binding effect of precedent than did the House of Lords, it was in no position on a question of English law to invoke the *Practice Statement* (1966) 1 WLR 1234 pursuant to which the House had assumed the power to depart in certain circumstances from a previous decision of the House.

It was, of course, open to the Judicial Committee to depart from a House of Lords' decision in a case where, by reason of custom, statute, or for other reasons peculiar to the jurisdiction, where no such dispute arose, the Judicial Committee was required to determine

whether English law should or should not apply. Only if it was decided or accepted (as in this case) that English law was the law to be applied would the Judicial Committee consider itself bound to follow a House of Lords' decision.

The company operated its current account with each bank pursuant to the bank's terms and conditions. The terms of business were contractual in effect, but to no case did they constitute "conclusive evidence clauses".

If banks wished to impose upon their customers an express obligation to examine their monthly statements and to make those statements, in the absence of query, unchallengeable by the customer after expiry of a time limit, the burden of the obligation and of the sanction imposed had to be brought home to the customer.

Clear and unambiguous provision was needed if the banks were to introduce into the contract a binding obligation upon the customer who did not query his bank statement to accept the statement as accurately setting out the debit items in the account.

Having held that the company was not in breach of any duty owed by it to the banks it was not possible to establish an estoppel.

Their Lordships agreed with the judge in his rejection of the submission that because the sums wrongly debited were in non-interest bearing accounts interest was not recoverable. Interest was not run from the date the writ was issued.

Their Lordships recommended that the appeal be allowed and the company's claim for declarations that the banks were not entitled to debit the company's accounts with the sums claimed, together with interest on those sums and costs.

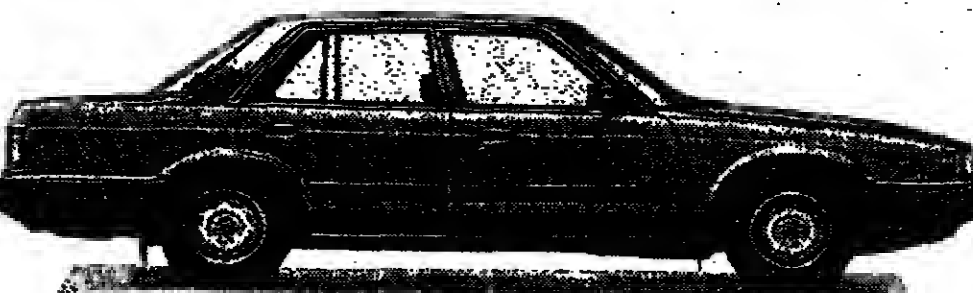
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Fingerprint power must be exercised judicially

Regina v West London Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Ryser
Before Lord Justice Mustill and Mr Justice Otton
[Judgment delivered July 21]

The power of a magistrate under section 49 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 to require an arrested suspect to give his fingerprints or palmprints to the police should be exercised judicially, and there must be grounds upon which such an order could be properly made.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in granting the applicant, Andrew Ryser, an order of certiorari to quash the order of Mr Brian Canham, West London Stipendiary Magistrate, on August 9, 1984, that the defendant give his palmprints and/or fingerprints to the police, and granting an order of mandamus directing the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to destroy the prints and all copies and records thereof.

Mr Adrian Fulford for the applicant; Mr Kevin de Haan for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE OTTON said that the applicant had been arrested and charged with two offences of assault occasioning actual bodily harm. He was asked to give his palm and fingerprints but refused.

A police inspector applied for an order under section 49 of the 1980 Act requiring the applicant to give his prints. The sole reason put forward to support the application was that the police wished to verify the applicant's identity.

At the hearing before the

magistrate, the police were in possession of the applicant's work pass, and a representative of the applicant's employers confirmed that the applicant had been known to him for three years. Records were produced indicating that the applicant had worked for his employers for 10 years. He had been known to his solicitors since 1981 and was of good character save for one offence of riding a pushbike having consumed excess alcohol.

Reference had been made to the guidelines contained in Volume 1 of *Sheriff's Justice Manual* 1985 at p34. It was clear that the power to order prints to be given under section 49 must be exercised judicially, and there must be grounds upon which an order under that section could properly be made.

Here there could have been no reasonable doubt as to the applicant's identity and no grounds were disclosed special to the applicant himself.

The general point was raised that many persons appearing before the courts had more than one identity.

The magistrate was simply told that the applicant had refused to have his prints taken. If that were to be taken as a basis for making an order, *ex hypothesi* an order could be made in all such cases.

Orders of certiorari to quash the order and mandamus directing the Commissioner to destroy the prints would be granted accordingly. Lord Justice Mustill agreed. Solicitors: Mr M C P O'Dwyer, North Kensington; Metropolitan Police Solicitor.

SPECTRUM

New frontiers for the map men

Geography, once the sleeping giant of British education, is waking up.

David Walker reports on how the highly popular subject has found a more dynamic and up-to-date image

On April 11, 1984 *Motor-Cycle* News published a letter of complaint from Samantha Warman, of Lyme Regis. "When I was at school," she wrote, "geography was one of my favourite subjects. It certainly can't have been for the members of the Speedway Control Board."

Why didn't they realize that the proposed world speedway final at Odell Stadium in Bradford was so far out on a limb that she would never be able to get there? Samantha Warman was not implying Bradford was in the middle of nowhere. But with only three other speedway tracks within a 100-mile radius of the city it wasn't exactly - in relation to the other 40 or so speedway tracks in Britain - nodal.

Nodal. With that word Samantha Warman became the heroine of geography teachers and professors throughout the land. Her letter was pored over excitedly at academic conferences, for she disproved their strong belief that geography, despite its immense popularity as a school subject and the large number of students graduating with honours degrees, does not leave much trace.

When they looked at the job prospects of their students recently, geography professors discovered (to their delight) that they found work easily. But they are still wondering why significant numbers of graduate geographers become accountants. The connection between reading maps and reading balance sheets is, they readily admit, a little tenuous.

Geography is one of the sleeping giants of British education and one in which this country's international reputation is high - British geographers often take chairs in foreign universities. Teaching standards in schools are generally good.

But it is a quiet, unassuming subject. Geographers rarely pop up as pundits. The Education Secretary and the Chancellor never exchange memoranda on how to suppress it (as they did with sociology). The Whitehall civil servant who runs the Government's inner cities programme happens to be a geographer, but he is rare. You meet few of them in the corridors of power.

There are, it is true, some Marxist geographers. Professor Doreen Massey, of the Open University, trails her coat in *Marxism Today*. Derek Gregory, of Cambridge, can swap polysyllables with the best of Continental theorists.

There are even Tory geographers, such as Michael Wise of the London School of Economics, a great kindly bear of a man who advises the Government on roads. But most geographers are not political animals; they do, however, take great exception to the old saw that history is about chaps and geography about maps. There has been much urgent thinking in recent months about the image of the subject and how to make it more vital.

Geography in British education was undoubtedly boosted by the imperial connection. Everyone over

30 can remember classrooms festooned with maps with large portions of the globe coloured red, signifying British possession. For generations the map-makers and the topographers had followed the flag and until the Second World War geography teaching reflected this.

For a long time, too, much geography was descriptive - the names of rivers and mountain ranges, and accounts of life in foreign environments (anyone remember what "transhumance" involves?)

No longer, says Roger Lee, of Queen Mary College, London. "Contemporary geography is concerned less with the description of the geographical variability of weather, for example, than with the nature and operation of the complex physical processes that drive the atmosphere to produce weather."

Geographers were incensed some time ago when a rare occurrence of the subject was mentioned on radio, but in a typical bit of phrase-making Robert Robinson referred to its "limitless savannas of unlearned fact".

Not so, says Mr Lee. "It is concerned less with the description of patterns of agricultural land use than with the analysis of economic and social processes that underpin the patterns; it has less interest in cataloguing glacial erosion and deposition that may be derived from such features, its concern also lies less with the geographical distribution of population than with the social and economic influence which affect family and community."

Geography both suffers and benefits from the anachronistic way in which it is perceived. Parents make school subject choices for their children in a most subjective way. The fact is that geography textbooks look good - full of necessary, useful information. This has led to a remarkable flow of very good students towards the subject.

Geography is the eighth most popular single honours discipline in British universities, 46 of which offer courses with a geographical component (plus some 53 colleges outside the university system). In terms of A-level subject entries, geography ranks about ninth.

One measure of the quality of student geographers is that only 43 per cent of applicants to university geography courses are accepted, compared with 64 per cent of those applying in mathematics and 54 per cent in economics.

In the heart of the school curriculum, in the years up to O-level and CSE, geography's position is strong. To recent years it has attracted the fifth largest subject entry at O-level - after English, language, mathematics, English literature and biology, and significantly ahead of physics, French or even history.

Why, when these figures are so impressive, should teachers of geography be worried about their status and public image? The blunt answer is falling school rolls, leading to reduced student numbers and tighter competition all round for research money.



But there is another answer: geographers want more recognition because they are convinced their subject has something special to offer modern Britain.

In his address as president of the Geographical Association, Rex Walford, of Cambridge, gave examples of where he thought geographical study and research was particularly forward thinking.

● The traditional divisions of industrial occupation now have a fourth category - people who earn a living by generating, transmitting and possessing information. Where do they live and work; and where are they going to need to move to?

● As the industrial geography of the United Kingdom shifts from the heavy industry "cuff area" we have to shift our thinking to the "sun belt" pattern along the Bristol-Cambridge axis and confront a new set of locational issues.

● We understand cities in terms of London, New York and Tokyo. But Mexico City defies the conventional analysis. In the Third World, if we count people living in the *favelas*, the *hustles* and the shanty-towns, several areas exceed those listed in official statistics as the largest.

● We use the seas as hunters and nomads; simultaneously we use them as a bottomless pit for tipping the globe's garbage. Surveys consistently warn the capacity of the seas is finite.

The beauty of geography (say the geographers) is two-fold. Over the years it developed intellectually on two fronts, as both an earth and a human science, demanding A-level preparation in maths, chemistry and physics as well as an arts/social studies subject. The subject's boundary, therefore, runs from the inner life of glaciers to inner cities (there are places where the two are not wholly unconnected).

Perhaps, because of its scientific twin, human geography has always

had a more rigorous base than other social sciences. In the 1960s, when sociology went wild and woolly, geography, like economics, went quantitative. It used maths and models to chart human behaviour in the "spatial dimension".

Roger Lee notes that geography has never strayed too far into abstract model-building, not too far into Marxism, for the good reason that human geography's subject matter - people in places - keeps forcing the theorists back to the specific, the particular and the unique.

"We are interested in the nature of particular places: how a place, town, valley region, becomes a social force helping to explain, say, the development of an industry," he says. "The general models offered by sociology and economics always have to grapple with the real world of places. Explaining how people behave will always, in our view, be a mosaic."

"The complexity of the real world demands a severe rigour. The variable relations between people, society and nature cannot be reduced to simplistic science. As a result geography must necessarily conceive problems in the round, must be sensitive to inter-connections; must in short, be synthetic as well as analytical."

Geography's place in the A-level league

Subject	Numbers of A level entries (England) in thousands
Mathematics	91.5
English	83
Physics	55
Chemistry	47.5
Biology (with botany and zoology)	44.5
Economics	42.5
General studies	40.5
History	37.7
Geography	33.9

GEOGRAPHY IN THE CLASSROOM

According to the Geographical Association, geography makes four special contributions to the curriculum:

- **Graphicacy** - the understanding and communication of spatial information through maps and other forms of illustration. Only in geography are pupils taught systematically to read and use maps.
- **World knowledge** - to help the pupil make sense of current events and make informed judgments on economic, political, social and environmental issues. This is particularly important in Britain which maintains its living standards by trading its increasingly competitive world-wide markets.
- **International understanding** - of different cultures, both within our society and elsewhere in the world. Geography teachers acknowledge that pupils come to school with their own private views of the world and they seek to provide opportunities for these to develop.
- **Environmental awareness** - how man uses and misuses the world around him. Through study-

ing physical and human resources at a variety of scales from the immediate and local to the world as a whole, pupils learn to move from the familiar and concrete to the more distant, general and, perhaps, abstract. Geography seeks to satisfy and build upon the child's natural curiosity about the world. What gets taught in geography lessons? These examples are taken from a recent edition of the journal *Teaching Geography*:

- Pupils consult older local people and documents about the shape of the land before their 1930s primary school was built.
- A-level candidates study the layout of Belfast as an urban agglomeration looking at maps showing the distribution of the unemployed. Protestant and Catholic deprivation and so on.
- Pupils use a school-built sand table to model the effects of river erosion and delta deposition.
- A field centre offers pupils the chance to study movement along the course of a stream.
- O and A-level students are taught to analyse a non-western city (such as Delhi) as a pattern of rings, sectors and "patches".

Admissions to geography teacher courses (postgraduate) in England and Wales

	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84
University	382	351	313	313(?)
Non-univ college	212	217	134	65(?)
Total	594	568	447	378

Roger Lee makes a convincing salesperson, emphasizing that the discipline is in no sense "masculine". Lots of women study geography; there is nothing even in its quantitative aspects to put them off.

"It combines literacy with 'graphicacy' (the ability to put down information in tables and maps)" he says. "Geographers have to be able to present information. They understand scientific method. And now most courses have an element of computer training."

Traditionally, according to a Geographical Association pamphlet, geography in schools was preoccupied by location, comparing and contrasting places and regions and countries. Now there are satellite photographs and a variety of statistical information which require under pupils to use new information technology.

Geography, says one of its leading lights, Professor Bryan Robson, of Manchester University, has a strict neutrality of approach - and he is right in so far as geography unlike politics or religion or sociology or economics, is rarely taught by teachers with any sort of bias.

But for all that geography can, on occasions, seem a bit wary. The Geographical Association's literature is full of such phrases as understanding how man misuses his environment, "fostering better understanding of different cultures", preparing students for life in a multi-cultural society.

Sonic weeks ago Education Secretary Sir Keith Joseph gave the profession an accolade by appearing at the Geographical Association's annual meeting and making a critical speech warning of all kind of political dangers.

In trying to understand cities, people and agriculture in the Third World, Sir Keith warned that geographers might be tempted to

assume problems could be solved by governments, and ignore the initiative and endeavour of individuals. Equally they might convince pupils that the shape of the land or the structure of cities was somehow a controlling influence, when both could be changed by individual and collective efforts.

"In the past, I suspect that some geography teachers may have been inclined to present the physical environment as the prime controlling influence, which largely explained the use of land and the relative success of particular countries," he said. "I also wonder whether some teachers have more recently tended to advance explanations based not on physical determinism but on economic determinism."

"Are pupils also given a proper and adequate opportunity to consider the different ways in which individuals and groups have affected events and conditions by their own efforts and talents?"

Geography, Sir Keith said, should have a bit more economics in it, which would sound curiously like what the more radical left-wing geographers have been saying recently.

Sir Keith's remarks went down well for they fitted in with the attempt by geographers to make their subject more "relevant".

Surprisingly, none of the teachers at the conference raised an obvious question. If geography should take on board more economics, what did that imply for the large number of accountants, company executives and industrialists (two thirds of female geography graduates go into industry and commerce) now managing firms and factories with their heads full of maps, mesas and the dimensions of Madagascar?

Transhumance: Seasonal moving of livestock

Building for the future

Architecture is refreshingly alive and well and positively thriving. An impressive variety of designs turned up among the 952 entries received from 190 schools of architecture to 36 countries for the Royal Institute of British Architects' annual student design competition.

Devised by James Stirling, with art collector Lord McAlpine as co-jurors - the competition required the world's premier architectural students, to design a Concord Gallery to display the works of Hockney, and Caro.

The honour and £1,500 in prize money went to Kay Ngee Tao, who trained at the Architecture Association in London, and is now with Arup Associates, one of Britain's leading practices.

Tan, 28, an enthusiast of both the representational work of Hockney and the more abstract offerings of Caro, produced an intriguing wino design described by the assessors as "an angular, translucent, bifurcated building like two marine crustaceans in ecstatic hermaphroditic embrace".

Tan himself quoted the title of an early Hockney oil as his drawings - "We two (boys) clinging together". His design is of two interlocking buildings which would display the work of each artist in a spare space of angular, inter-connected and dynamic.

Most of Tan's Easter holiday was spent on the project as well as many late nights and early mornings - evidence of which is a lift shaft in his scheme which inevitably appears and disappears from one level to the next.

At Arup Tan is designing a new church for Milton Keynes and working on the redevelopment plans for the Imperial War Museum. What is clear is his approach in the Concord Gallery, and in choosing to work at Arup before he qualifies as a fully-fledged architect next year, is that he enjoys the process of building buildings, not just their abstract and tentative representation on paper.

At the Singapore school of architecture he learnt, among other things, how to work with materials such as poured concrete. His drawings show that he has thought through how all the components are going to fit together on site.

There is no stylistic preoccupation evident in Tan's work. "I just do what I like," he says. His current heroes are Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci.

An exhibition of all the designs can be seen at the Royal Academy until next Sunday (10am to 6pm), and an encouraging aspect of the show is the number of entrants from Eastern-bloc countries - USSR (42, only two fewer than the US), Yugoslavia (24), Romania and Poland (11 apiece), Czechoslovakia (six) and China (five).

The meeting of minds between East and West promises a rich blend of interpretation and buildings in years ahead.

Charles Knevitt
Architecture Correspondent

How radio brought insight to the outback



Tuned in: Aborigines listen to a tape of local news

Later this week the Home Secretary is expected to announce that up to 20 community radio stations will be given licences to broadcast.

If the experiment is a success, it will be the model for a sweeping extension of British radio which will greatly increase the diversity of stations on the air. The announcement will go some way to legitimizing aspects of pirate radio, give ethnic and other minorities a broadcasting voice, and provide an outlet for communities of interest, such as stations which are devoted to jazz or classical music.

What will British listening be like after the community radio revolution? Some clues may be gathered from the airwaves in Australia where community stations now offer a daily diet of mind-boggling variety.

Community radio in Australia has its roots in the Vietnam War years, when draft resisters from the universities and colleges maintained a running battle with authorities from transmitters nestled firmly on the back seats of their old VWs.

There are those who say it goes back further. In the outback, the drovers and shearers have long conducted their affairs on the bush radio-telephone, with an audience spread over areas of several hundred square miles.

Welcoming the arrival of AUSSAT, the Australian domestic satellite which is about to bring television, radio and telephone services to people in some of the most remote settlements on earth, an old "bushie" recalled using the radio-telephone for his courtship.

"You could almost hear them sighing," he said. "All those lonely station hands waiting to be entertained. The only way we could find privacy was to keep the important messages in German."

Today there are 58 community radio stations throughout Australia, involving more than 20,000 volunteers and

operating under various licensing restrictions. Sixty more groups are expected to gain licences within two years.

Last year the government, which receives about \$460 million (about £30 million) a year from commercial television and radio broadcasters, allocated only £250,000 to community radio. The £3.5 million needed to run the stations came mainly from fund-raising events and gifts.

Programmes are directed at a remarkable range of groups. Ethnic listeners, gay rights activists, Christian fundamentalists, unionists, country music lovers, Irish nationalists and pensioner groups all jostle for a place in the airwaves.

At the well-established listening Melbourne station 3CR, for example, there was a long-running dispute about anti-Semitism involving supporters of Arab extremists and the local Jewish Board of Deputies. That was resolved with new station guidelines that allow "Jazz", a programme from Jews Against Zionism and Anti-Semitism, now to be heard peacefully alongside the show "Iran Today" and "Palestine Voice".

Mr Geoff Swanton, manager of 3CR, says: "Conservatives have access to the mainstream

regions. There are 20 Aboriginal radio groups in Australia, broadcasting in the tribal languages. Pitjantjatjara, Arrandja and Walbiri, as well as in English.

Mr Brian White, president of the Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters, told me that community radio was part of Australia's "far too confusing broadcasting situation" and his personal feeling was that they were a waste of broadcasting space. But Mr White, who has in the past received a message of support for 3CR's fund-raising, said he could see where they benefit society.

Australia is so proud that I sometimes think you would have to actually drop the bomb on it to get people out demonstrating in the streets. One explanation for this is that we have so many escape valves. Community radio does help

keep people satisfied. They can go out there, get on air, shout and scream and, though only three people are listening in them, go away satisfied. It's an escape valve, that's all."

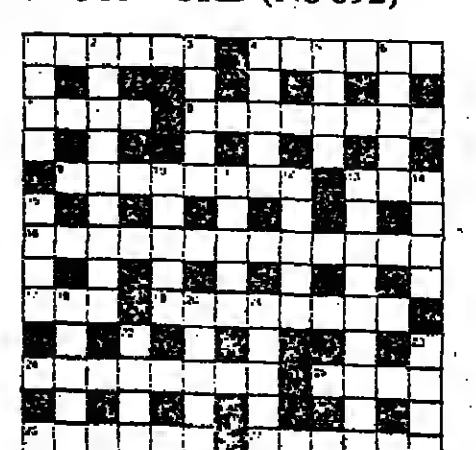
Now lush Aborigines can go walking with a wireless to record their traditional legends, songs and oral language. The stations also deliver much-appreciated American and Australian country music.

"Daddy used to call me Dingo, out there on the sunburnt plain," the singer croons. And then it may be over to that somewhat plaintive message from the station announcer: "You have a friends doing time at the Alice Springs jail, you can see them between nine and 11.30 in the morning, 1.15 to 3.30 in the afternoon."

Brian Courtis

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 692)

- ACROSS
- 1 Trim (6)
 - 4 Be servile (6)
 - 7 Sink (4)
 - 8 Keep up (8)
 - 9 Frolic waterfalls (8)
 - 13 Sub (3)
 - 16 Amazed (13)
 - 17 Dried grass (13)
 - 19 Adventure (8)
 - 24 Delicacies (8)
 - 25 Lissen (14)
 - 26 Interfere (6)
 - 27 Egg yolk (6)



- DOWN
- 1 Filth (4)
 - 2 Engrace (9)
 - 3 Cuban dance (5)
 - 4 Whale food (5)
 - 5 Power unit (4)
 - 6 Willow (5)
 - 10 Toffee sweet (5)
 - 11 Short poem (5)
 - 12 Organization (5)
 - 13 Quick glance (4,1,4)
 - 14 Burden (4)
 - 15 Engrave (4)
 - 18 Keen (5)
 - 20 Incalculable (5)
 - 21 Attenuate (5)
 - 22 LSD (4)
 - 23 Pull (4)

SOLUTION TO No 691

ACROSS: 1 Amends 5 Lore 8 Faist 9 Revised 11 Calamity 13 Bait 15 Opportunities 17 Auld 18 Keelsake 21 Guiding 22 Beat 23 Werd 24 Strong

DOWN: 2 Moist 3 Net 4 Structures 5 Levy 6 Resolve 7 Affirmation 10 Transience 12 Rare 14 Sep 16 Pairs 19 Arson 20 Hurd 22 Bar

This is Sarah. She thinks her name is 'Oi'.

'Oi' is all her parents have ever called her.

As if that wasn't tragic enough, there were no toys in the house. Sarah was underweight and not properly clothed.

In fact, when the NSPCC called at the house, Sarah rushed to embrace the inspector. Help had arrived.

The NSPCC's task is to provide help. And with 100 years of practice in cases like this, there's every chance we'll succeed.

But first we have to ensure protection for Sarah.

And that can cost £15.48 for two weeks.

If you can send all or part of that sum it'll be used immediately to help children.

Putting your name on the coupon is the surest way of helping Sarah remember hers.

I want to help protect a child and enclose my cheque or postal order for (please indicate appropriate box) £ ☐ £15.48 ☐ £30.96 ☐ £92.88

Access and Visa card holders may No. BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Signature

Name

Address

Postcode

Please send your donation to Dr. A. Gilmore Ref: 50330NSPCC, FREEPOST, London EC1B 1QQ.

NSPCC

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Heather Kirby investigates how women are coping with recent reforms in the law

Divorce: for better or worse

The Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act, which became law last October, contained three controversial clauses which opponents of the Bill claimed were unworkable and punitive, putting undue pressure on women with children to seek employment when jobs are scarce. These clauses were that ex-wives should strive to become self-sufficient; that where there were no dependent children and a capital sum was available, the "clean break" option should be put into operation; and the provision that courts could bar further applications for maintenance, against the wishes of the (usually) wife, no matter what misfortune happened in the future.

Supporters of the Act assured women that they should not be frightened by it, that the Act now requires the court to give first consideration to the welfare of the children but how is the Act being interpreted?

Will the woman who devotes her life to the role of wife and mother be relegated to the pages of social history under a chapter headed Domestic Dinosaur? Would that be such a bad thing? I interviewed many women who are bitter, angry, suffering and resigned to injustice, but only one who was not even trying to stand on her own feet.

It appears that registrars are being stingy, telling women to get on with it, but the good news is that they are trying. Women are picking up their pride.

A senior physiotherapist from a London hospital, who gave up her job six years ago, ironically not to bring up two children, then 11 and 15, but to try to save her marriage, was peremptorily told last month to cut her coat according to her cloth: "I was given interim maintenance of £5,200, but was told it wouldn't go on forever and I should be expected to use my qualifications and prove to the court at the next hearing - which will be whenever my ex-husband decides to ask for a reduction - that I have tried to find work."

"I don't give you my name because I don't want anyone in the profession to know I have not worked for so long. I have advertised my services in a professional magazine, put cards through doctors' letter-boxes and am doing sessions for two firms for a ridiculously low fee - it doesn't even pay for the petrol - just so that I can put them on my C.V. I even went for a job in a shop just to get out of the house, but was told I sounded too educated and was too smartly dressed. I would intimidate their customers!"

That reminds me of the story my hairdresser told me about a Jewish friend, who had never done anything except look beautiful and housework. She went after a cleaning job, only

to be berated by her Jewish employer for stooping so low. She cried with humiliation, then tried her hand at the other thing she was good at, and now has a small but useful income making up women for special occasions.

The majority of women want to work, but they are cynical about the hollow rhetoric, enshrined in the Act, that "priority" should be given to the needs of the children. Their welfare depends upon the mother's standard of living, and whether it is better for children to come home to a welcome from the dog and the aroma of sponge-cakes, or to have a mother who can cope with the computer homework, is not even an issue anymore.

A woman has no choice. Whether she is abandoned on the creek without a paddle immediately or allowed to drift until the children leave school, nowadays she could find the canoe sunk under her as well. So will any future generation of women be willing to risk drowning by divorce?

Yvonne is a typical case of an older woman who has become a victim of the "clean break" clause. She is 55, and two weeks after the law was introduced her ex-husband's solicitor wrote announcing his intention of taking advantage of it. She took a teacher-training course and has a job for three days a week at a prep school, for which her take-home pay is £75.82.

She is to receive half the proceeds of their home, which is on the market, and he will then stop paying her £32-a-week maintenance. The two grown-up sons, both in temporary jobs, who live with her, receive nothing, of course.

"I shall have to buy something big enough to accommodate them," she said. "I can't just push them out. When I was first divorced, a person of my age was in demand because of our experience with children; we were really wanted, but the whole situation has turned around since the squeeze."

Job security is not a subject on which any woman coping with children on her own wants to dwell; it is just another reason why the rational wife of the future will ensure her own, and her children's survival by her own efforts and not by relying on a man.

In the long term, according to a leading woman lawyer, what women want is a better education, not more maintenance. "Women are on a hiding to nothing," she said. "They need to revolutionize marriage, and they will be able to do that only by getting up there in the positions of power. But they could start by letting the husbands have the children."

It is both their weakness and their strength that few women could bring themselves to do that. State-run crèches, better nursery facilities, holiday play



Lillian Simpson: better off than some

CASE HISTORIES

JUNE FIELD is 49, was married for 18 years and divorced one year ago. She has a full-time job as a secretary to a local government architect in Hertfordshire, and has a 19-year-old daughter, who is a clerk in an office.

June went back to court in November last year to seek an increase in her £20-a-week maintenance order, which had remained the same for eight years, and it was raised to £30. Her ex-husband's solicitor brought up the new Act, claiming his client intended to take early retirement at 55 and did not want his second wife to go out to work. He asked the registrar if he could make the order for only three years. The registrar could. He said the question of June's maintenance was "never to be resurrected."

He argued that by then "our daughter would be 22 and should be of an age when she was contributing to the running of the home," June explained. "I represented myself at the hearing because my solicitor wanted £100 to advance and I didn't have the money. Also, with this new law I did not feel like taking the chance of not getting it back."

"If I am made redundant - and with Government cut-backs to local authorities this could easily happen - or if anything happens to me which makes it impossible to work in three

schemes, a non-means-tested single-parent allowance at least equal to the Widowed Mothers' Benefit of £35.80 per week, longer maternity leave for a second child, automatic paternity leave, positive discrimination, TOPS courses with allowances for child care - they are all partial solutions, piously promulgated and so far shamelessly ignored, which women have every right to demand if they are expected to be self-sufficient."

In the meantime, what women have to live with is the reality of the law as it stands, and even that is really relevant only to middle-class couples on high incomes. Working-class women often receive no maintenance, or such a pittance that the so-called slicing of the matrimonial cake is a non-event. She may be better off than before, though, by at least having control of the family finances. She is also more likely to be better off on supplementary benefits.

Children, seen by some employers as a threat to efficiency, are considered by others a guarantee of it. A lecturer at Aston University, Birmingham, where they ran a successful Women Into Man-



June Field: struggling

years time, I shall get nothing. I don't know what I shall do. I try not to think about it, and just live from day to day.

"I maintain that you don't really have the physical reserves to do a full-time job and run a home single-handed as you get older. You need as much help when you are older as when you are younger. I feel as if I have been struggling and fighting for the last 18 years."

"After the divorce I didn't want to have a full-time job because I didn't want my daughter to come back to an empty house, but I had no choice as I didn't receive any maintenance for her for a full year. I feel I have been badly done by."

agreement. Course, told me that single women had to go overboard in proving their reliability in order to counteract the prejudice against them, and that employers were beginning to notice. "Although the mother with children may have to hustle up on her skills, she has not lost the habit of hard work. And whereas an ordinary person might not be organized to deal with a crisis, the single parent has to be."

"Women are discriminated against by staying at home to bring up their children - they lose status, and promotion prospects, are in and out of

LILLIAN SIMPSON is a 42-year-old single parent, from Glasgow, who has two sons 19 and 18, one in the Army, the other in the Navy. "I was a daughter of eight," she worked as a typist in an insurance office until her marriage at 22, when her husband insisted she should give up work.

When she divorced six years ago, Lillian says she "tried to go to Canada to make an absolutely fresh start, but because I was a single parent they wouldn't let me in."

"I had a job to go to and my sister was going to divide her house into two flats, but they said if anything happened to me we should be living off the State."

"In Glasgow you are housed in the most deprived areas if you are a single parent. When I tried for a job of first there, then to go to Canada to make an absolutely fresh start, but because I was a single parent they wouldn't let me in."

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The fast food summer salad



Shona Crawford Poole

Thirty minutes is not a great deal of time to spend preparing the main meal of the day, but according to a British Nutrition Foundation survey, half the families in the country devote no longer to the task. It would be interesting to know how the preparation time is spent. Does the expanding variety of prepared dishes allow us to spend less time in the kitchen? Or do we buy pre-crumbed fish and use the minutes saved to make a salad or a pudding?

Whatever the answers, future research produced, quick meals will always be a cornerstone of every cook's repertoire. McDonalds are not the only people in the fast food business.

Simple meals based on fresh ingredients are never more appealing than when they are flavoured with summer herbs. For the few short months that basil flourishes with abandon, I make tomato salads several times a week. When the tomatoes are full of flavour and really ripe the dressing is reduced to olive oil, pepper and salt and a scattering of freshly picked basil leaves. When the tomatoes are insipid, I slosh on a thick mustardy vinaigrette - the kind you keep dipping bread into as long as there is any dressing left on the plate.

Picking tomatoes takes only a few moments if they are first dipped into boiling water for a few seconds. Once skinned, they will keep in the fridge for a day or two, so a big batch can be picked for use in several salads.

Getting rid of the tough little core is more important than peeling them, and the easiest way is to cut it out of the whole fruit with a sharp, pointed knife. Take the core out in a small, carrot-shaped wedge.

Tomato and basil salad Serves four to six 680g (1½ lb) ripe tomatoes A handful of fresh basil leaves

For the dressing 6 tablespoons olive oil 1 to 2 tablespoons wine vinegar 1 teaspoon or more dry mustard Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Peel and core the tomatoes. Slice them thickly and arrange them on a serving plate. Mix together the oil, vinegar, mustard, pepper and salt. Shaking them together in a small jar is the quickest way to make a thick dressing. Pour the dressing over the salad and scatter the basil over the top. Unless the leaves are very large, leave them whole.

Remove the top sheet of plastic and pepper the escalopes then lay on top the whole sage leaves and lastly a slice of Parma ham.

Heat a large sauté or frying pan. A good non-stick pan is even better. Add just enough oil to coat the surface and when it is hot add one or two escalopes, ham side down. Cook for a minute or two on one side, then turn and cook them on the other. The escalopes are so thin that they really do cook quickly. Keep the cooked chicken warm in a very low oven while you fry the remainder.

Serve the chicken with new potatoes and a green vegetable, or with fresh tagliatelle.

Although nothing you can buy compares with a successful batch of home-made pasta, the fresh pasta which is so widely available now is generally an improvement on the dried, storecupboard kind. Fettuccine and tagliatelle are the simplest of all to turn into almost instant meals. Serve thin ribbon noodles with fresh sage as first or main course.

Tagliatelle with fresh sage Serves four to six 110g (4oz) butter 12 or more sage leaves 450g (1 lb) fresh tagliatelle Salt and freshly ground black pepper

110g (4oz) finely grated fresh Parmesan, the best you can find

Melt the butter in a heavy pan and add the sage. Cook together until the butter is golden brown, watching to make sure it does not darken too much. Keep warm.

Cook the pasta in plenty of boiling salted water, drain it well and tip it into a large warmed bowl. Pour the sage butter over the pasta through a strainer. Add plenty of spicy black pepper and half the cheese and toss the noodles quickly in these flavourings. Serve immediately with the remainder of cheese to sprinkle on top of each plate.

At this time of year when there is a salad of one sort or another with almost every meal I make a pint or two of basic vinaigrette at a time and keep it in a bottle. A bottle made of coloured glass makes a more attractive container than one made of plain glass.

A hot garlic bread, with a pungently perfumed tomato salad is a bit over-the-top but watch it disappear. Baguette-shaped brown loaves are even better than white French bread. The garlic and parsley butter is another valuable standby to make in time-saving half pound batches. Flap mushrooms spread with garlic butter and grilled give a gorgeous very good run for their money, or stir a knob of garlic butter into freshly boiled pasta for an instant sauce.

Garlic bread Serves four to six 1 to 2 cloves garlic A bunch of parsley

Further, only some 5 per cent of those aged 65 and over are in an institution of some kind.

Sahara sneeze From Old Hans, St. Lawrence, St. East Sussex. After beating off bees (Letters July 1 et al) more frivolity I'm afraid, on the Monday page (Denis Herstein's First Person, July 1). A six-week stay in the Sahara, far from relieving his fever will probably worsen it, because desert plants produce much more pollen (environmental compensation) than good old English grass.

Old figures From R. F. A. Shoggo, Symonds Yat West, Herefordshire. A section of the statistics attached to Caroline Moorehead's article "Fostering an old friend" (July 3) requires major correction.

From one of the recent books on the subject (*The Impending*

Crises of Old Age, OUP 1984) it can be seen that "Of all aged 65 and over," about 30 per cent are single persons living alone and about 47 per cent are couples or siblings, living together.

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Foetal handicap

From Diane Munday, *Witchingham, North Lincolnshire*. It was said to see Alison Davis's carping "Talkback" (June 25) attack on Helen Franks's account of attempts to help my disabled husband. As a handicapped person herself, Mrs Davis could have shown pleasure that, by publicizing my struggle with the local hospital, we were really wanted, but the whole situation has turned around since the squeeze."

It is both their weakness and their strength that few women could bring themselves to do that. State-run crèches, better nursery facilities, holiday play

For example, I have already heard of a lady who, through lack of an improvement grant, has not been down stairs for 14 years out from another who is housebound in a wheelchair

because nobody had told her about the wheelchair lift I had fitted for my husband.

And of course there have been mean-minded attacks from other non-abortion campaigners writing along much the same lines as Mrs Davis. . .

Nevertheless, I am in good company: for the vast majority of the population believe abortion should be allowed to a woman carrying a defective foetus but also believe all possible help should be given to those who are born handicapped or who become so.

There is no "discrepancy" here unless one takes the minority view that an embryo has the same full human rights as an already born person.

TALKBACK

Personally, I stand by my previous statement (although not wishing to force my beliefs on others) that I would have considered it right to terminate any of my pregnancies if I had known I was likely to have a handicapped child.

Equally, I believe it right that society should do everything possible to make life more tolerable for disabled people including my husband and Alison Davis!

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THE TIMES DIARY

Booker's bitter blow

The competition between authors for the big literary prizes looks set to be overshadowed by competition between the prize-givers themselves. A mole tells me that later this month, amid a fanfare of publicity, Whitbread will announce a revamped competition and near-doubling of its prize money in a bid to steal the limelight from the media circus that the Booker has become. Tired of forking out some £12,000 a year for precious few column inches, the brewers are to put up a total of £22,500 in prize money and have taken on a new PR firm. One thousand pounds apiece will go to the best biography, novel, first novel, children's book and poetry collection. The winners will be announced at the height of the pre-Christmas spending spree, and in January, at a glittering awards ceremony, the best of the five will be named Book of the Year and receive £17,500 - £2,500 more than last year's Booker, which itself was increased by £10,000 from 1983. Will Booker respond to this high-profile challenge to its pre-eminence? The literary world no doubt hopes so. It would be laughing all the way to the bank.

Mind-boggling

Poor Robert Maxwell. No matter how hard he tries, no matter how many honours he covets, he simply will never be *British*. Recently he heard the Peter Tory, then a *Financial Times* columnist, is nicknamed Biggles (Tory lies some sort of Tiger Moth). Maxwell was delighted to be "in" with the boys, and when Tory was leaving to take up a job at the *Daily Star*, Maxwell flung open the door of his suite and, in his expansive way, boomed: "Come in, Biggles. Throughout Tory's leaving bash, Maxwell shouted 'Get Biggles a drink! Give Biggles a peanut! Naturally none of his lackies had the courage to correct him. What a goggle."

Caveat emptor

If supermarkets must sell putrid fish fingers to customers, they should at least refrain from selling them to Labour's shadow health minister. When Frank Dobson bought a strongly smelling packet from a supermarket, he contacted a Camden environmental health officer who found the contents misshapen, stuck together, and in a state of putrefaction due to bacteria. Camden prosecuted. Safeway has just been fined £250 by Hampstead magistrates.



Barry Fantoni

"I know who Bruce Springsteen is, but who are the Nottingham Union of Mineworkers?"

By and large

After the Brecon opinion polls fiasco, the Alliance in Croydon is pioneering a new finger on the public pulse - the Mrs Lorkins. Mrs Lorkins, the party explains in the local paper, is "a well-known local resident and not an office holder in any political party" who is willing to accept letters on the burning issues of the day and announce "the result". The hot topic of the moment is whether Tory Pam Little should resign from Croydon Council on the reasonable grounds that she has gone to live in Barbados. The seat would fall vacant after six months absence, but Mrs Little is due to attend a council meeting in December when she returns for her granddaughter's birthday. To Alliance fury, she has no intention of stepping down.

All clear

Even Denis Healey has come round to Labour's non-nuclear stance. Neil Kinnock claimed when addressing the Tribune Group for the first time as party leader on Monday, Healey's evidence was Healey's "gruff" retort when asked about Labour's position on nuclear arms by Charles Price, the US ambassador, during a dinner for George Shultz last week: "They are all going - the whole bloody lot."

Out of court

Ken Livingstone should take a geography lesson. He has just condemned the arrest of 21 pickets supporting the Newham Seven on trial at the Old Bailey last week. "The police, with their customary heavy-handedness and storm-trooper tactics, sought to intimidate and disrupt the pickets," he said. "It shows Sir Kenneth Newman's Metropolitan Police Commission strategy is a PR exercise not followed by his officers on the spot." The Old Bailey, of course, is not policed by the Met but by the City of London force.

Jobs: it's all a matter of timing

By Sarah Hogg

There are two labour markets in Britain. In one jobs are appearing, and being filled, quite rapidly. In the other jobs are still disappearing, and the average time spent on the dole queue is still going up.

This contradiction explains why the small drop in the unemployment figure for June has struck different notes from the sounding bells of Whitehall. The underlying, seasonally adjusted, no-frills figure was down 7,000, a mere 0.2 per cent, but even so the biggest drop for more than five years. The number of jobless school-leavers is lower than last year. Employment Department officials stayed with the old tune: the jobs trend is still upward, by an average of 10,000 a month. The Treasury is a bit more hopeful, and the Employment Secretary's caution was pretty perfunctory.

The figures were after all published on a by-election day. That past, the political calculators are hush with longer-term sums. Has unemployment finally reached its peak or is this merely a small depression along the upward climb? Ever since all forecasts (outside Cambridge, that is) underestimated the huge leap in the number of jobless in 1980-81, forecasters have generally played safe by predicting a slow, steady rise. The calculations, however, get more difficult all the time. For unemployment has been boosted by a huge rise in the labour force - nearly half a million last year alone - and it is hard to guess whether the appetite for work will continue to grow so fast.

Since last 1983 the number of jobs in Britain has been growing faster than the number of people of working age. But unemployment has still gone up. This paradox is heightened by comparison with the United States. There employment

has, recently, been shrinking. But unemployment has remained unchanged for five months: those who have lost jobs have disappeared out of the labour force.

So here we have the first clue. The size of the labour force is partly cyclical: when the demand for labour rises, the supply rises too, as job-seekers re-emerge into the statistics from the penumbra of unregistered unemployment or the black economy. This is an encouraging thought because it suggests that, after some years of modest recovery, Britain may be reaching the end of its cyclical surge in the demand for jobs.

But there are less cheerful explanations. One is that the growth in employment is not, on examination, quite as hot as ministers say. It is inflated by part-time jobs: the number of full-time employees is still falling. Even among the self-employed, where the government estimates there has been a big increase, a fair proportion consists of part-time work.

Counting this part-time work as half a job, the increase of employment in 1984 was not 340,000 but only about 220,000. This swing to part-time jobs means that the available work is being spread wider and thinner, which sounds good. But it also suggests - as the Manpower Services Commission warns - that two separate and parallel labour markets have developed. One is for full-time work, needed by those on the dole for whom part-time work usually pays too little to be worth abandoning social security for but needed less and less by employers.

The other is for part-timers: heavily in demand by employers and drawn not from the dole queue but rather from the pool of non-working housewives and second job-seekers. The labour force survey suggests that 5.7 per cent of self-employed men have a second job, as do 6.7 per cent of male employees who call themselves full-time but work 30 hours or less a week in their main jobs.

In 1973-79, each worker in Britain produced, on average only 1.2 per cent more each year. In 1979-83, that increased to 2.1 per cent, a figure generally expected to fall as the labour shake-out of the recession gradually came to an end. Allow for the modest increase in the number of people of working age, this suggested output growth of 2.5 per cent a year should be enough to check unemployment the extra 1 per cent of growth we are now experiencing should make a real dent.

But the "parallel market" is still pulling more people into work, and the Treasury's best guess is that this shift is far from over. At the same time, the underlying increase in productivity is still probably pretty strong: the figures are artificially depressed by the increase in part-time work, which muddles calculations of output per employee.

The government's main impact, on the sluggish half of the parallel labour market has been through employment schemes, now absorbing some 587,000 people. A further 100,000 are being drained off into the Community Programme this year, with the Youth Training Scheme expanding next year. But

these schemes do not cut joblessness one for one: this January there were 25,000 more youngsters on YTS than in 1984. But the number of jobs under 18s was the same. A less obvious effect of these schemes is a boost to productivity. Youngsters on YTS, for example, are "trainees" who do not show up in the employment statistics. But if their employers manage to make some use of them they will boost output. Their work will show up as an increase in the productivity of regular employees.

So while the government can do more to shorten the dole queue, it simultaneously needs higher growth to raise employment, and higher growth still to raise employment enough to absorb the new part-time job-seekers: all of which suggests that continuous growth at today's pace is needed for the next couple of years.

By the end of the decade, however, we may see a sharp change. Tax and social security reforms may gradually reduce the pressure on housewives to take on part-time work, while simultaneously increasing the incentive for those on the dole to look for part-time jobs. National Insurance changes may reduce the existing incentive to employers to use part-timers wherever possible. The barriers between the two labour markets may then begin to break down.

At the same time, the demographics will begin to help. Although the number of 16 and 17-year-olds is already declining from a peak of 1.9 million in 1981, the really sharp falls begin in 1989; and by 1993 the number will be down to 1.2 million. Whoever wins the next election will find a commitment to reducing unemployment a lot easier to meet.

Andrew Lycett on new fronts in the US liberal-militant Christian war

More humans — less humanism

A school counselling programme was brought to a halt because it contained traces of "secular humanism". The words of Homer, Hawthorne and Hemingway were taken off exam reading lists for the same transgression. The first instance happened not in Tehran but in Lincoln County, Oregon; the second not in Beirut but in St David, Arizona.

This innocent-sounding phrase has been fashioned into the latest weapon in the guerrilla war being fought by America's Christian fundamentalists against their liberal enemies. After several years under President Reagan, the fundamentalists have made some gains, but both sides are preparing for a long campaign of attrition. The fundamentalists are intensifying their efforts to bring back school prayer, ban abortion and elect sympathetic congressmen and senators.

The liberals see these endeavours as an unconstitutional attempt to establish a state religion. So far they have based their arguments on the constitution's precepts about church and state - that "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" (the First Amendment) and that there should be no religious tests for public office (Article Six). Their opponents scurried back to the libraries to find out what the founding fathers actually meant when they talked of maintaining "a wall of separation between church and state".

The more sophisticated fundamentalists came up with a new approach: "We're not interested in establishing a theocracy," their argument now runs. "However, the founding fathers clearly based their deliberations on the understanding that America was a Christian nation. They opened their conventions with prayer, their coinage bore the words, 'In God We Trust'. As creatures of their time they made obeisance to such Enlightenment ideas as preventing religious intolerance. But they were in no doubt that American democracy could prosper only if based on Christian values."

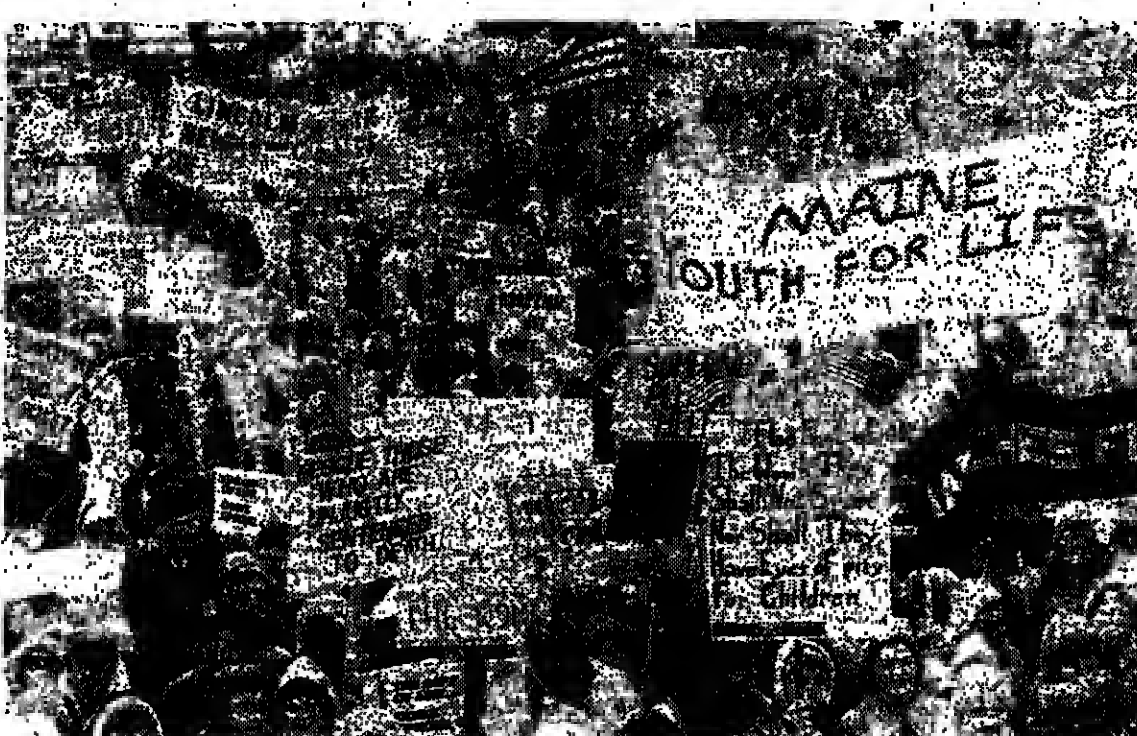
No less an authority than De Tocqueville, described religion as "the foremost of the political institutions of America", adding, "In France I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom pursuing courses diametrically opposed to one another; but in America I found that they were intimately united and that they reigned in common over the same country."

At tonight's annual meeting, the traditionally moderate and conservative Bar Council is under unexpected challenge from a well-coordinated and skilful campaign to adopt a tough, overtly protectionist stance.

The campaign and the sizeable support it is attracting reflect not just a growing concern at the style of leadership offered by barristers governing bodies, the Senate and the Bar Council. It is also a result of the tight economic pinch which many barristers are feeling. Despite the recent publicity over high fees in a libel case, most barristers do not earn the spectacular incomes enjoyed by the very few specialist counsel at the top of the profession. The majority are now dependent to some extent on publicly paid fees (legal aid and prosecution work) which have been tightly curbed by the Treasury.

Apart from the affront to barristers' pride at being classed by the Government as part of the public pay sector along with dustmen, hospital porters and railmen, this has caused serious division between those at the criminal and common law Bar and those in the commercial and specialist sectors who derive their income from private clients.

At the same time barristers' overheads have increased faster than inflation: in particular London



Fundamentalism on the march: an anti-abortion rally in Washington in January.

An influential thinking minority of fundamentalists focus on "secular humanism" because they see, the two causes of America's moral and political decline as John Dewey's educational reforms of the 1920s, which threw religion out of the classroom, and in their minds a direct consequence of the earlier abolition of responsibility, the liberal legislation of the 1950s and 1960s which opened the door to everything from abortion on demand and equal rights for women to drug abuse and violence.

At the root of both movements, they felt, was the underlying philosophy of humanism which sought to put man, not God, at the centre of the universe. Tim LaHaye, head of the American Coalition for Traditional Values (ACTV), one of the most prominent fundamentalist pressure groups with strong links to the White House, has called humanism "the world's greatest evil".

This theme has now entered the political arena. Last year the conservative Republican senator for Utah, Orr Hatch, managed to get an amendment passed on to the Education for Economic Security Act banning the use of federal funds from "any course of instruction the substance of which the LEA (local education agency) determines is secular humanism".

This year the Department of Education began implementing that amendment. Because it is up to the local authorities to make up their minds about secular humanism, Congress cannot be accused of acting against the constitution. However, the true guerrilla value of the Hatch clause is that there is no set definition of "secular humanism".

Thus thousands of school boards from California to Maine are currently having to decide whether their biology course or their student counselling programme contain elements of something which nobody quite understands.

They have been inundated with propaganda such as a pamphlet entitled *Is Humanism Molesting Your Child?* prepared by a parents' group in Fort Worth, Texas. It described secular humanism as a belief in "equal distribution of America's wealth... control of the environment, control of energy and its limitation... the removal of American patriotism and the free enterprise system, disarmament and the creation of a one-world socialist government".

The liberals (who, of course, have many Christians among their ranks) cannot match God's official battalions numerically. But they are

influential in the media and government. Their principal rallying point on the church-state issue is a Washington-based lobby called *People for the American Way* (PAW), which describes itself as "a non-partisan First Amendment citizens' organization with 150,000 members throughout the country".

Anthony Podesta, executive director of PAW, has written to the Department of Education for clarification. He says the "hoax of secular humanism" simply makes school boards' work more difficult and their members prey to attack by those who use the charge of secular humanism "to oppose anything they don't like about public education".

Senator Hatch told the *Washington Post* that the amendment was symbolic. "It has put the federal government on record saying that federal funds should not be spent on propagandizing an atheistic philosophy to our kids. If (PAW) doesn't like it, tough noogies."

Podesta warns: "The leaders of the Religious Right have lowered their voices - and raised their sights. They are writing their own ideas into federal law; they are influencing the appointment of top federal officials; they are permeating the federal bureaucracy and shaping policy on dozens of issues."

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Barristers storming the barricades

A scheme to blacklist solicitors who failed to pay on time. The difference this time is that DeWilde has lined up a powerful alliance headed by Anthony Scriven QC, with particular support from the provincial Bar.

The group is not only putting forward a slate of candidates for election to the Bar Council (not easy in an arcane system where voters have only one vote for every two vacant seats but is also proposing resolutions calling for electoral reform at tonight's Bar annual meeting. The response of the existing leadership has been to set up a working party, to be chaired by Lord Rawlinson QC, to review the electoral system.

The campaign manifesto is arguably long on slogans and rallying cries but short on concrete proposals for reform. Late-paying solicitors and other professions have been asked to change their practices. The Director General of Fair Trading, Sir Gordon Borrie (himself a barrister), who has been uncharacteristically reticent about the anti-competitive aspects of Bar practice, will not remain so for ever.

To respond to such challenges and to usher in radical changes, the Bar needs a tough, popular and apparently uncompromising leadership which cannot be accused of selling out. Only from a strong leadership will barristers swallow the medicine that would otherwise be forced down their throats.

Walter Merricks

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Jack Straw

Reconciling police and politics

If Her Majesty's Stationery Office wanted to make an extra copper for the public purse it would reprint, in popular form, Command 3103 (then price 9d). It contains the report of two enquiries, held in 1927 and 1928, into the St Helens County Borough Police Force.

The HMSO might sell the serial rights to *The Sun*. Why did the chief constable get so excited, while riding to town in a tramcar, when he saw "PC Griffin in plain clothes go into the house of Mr. Connelley, Mrs. Connelley, for so he said? Was Constable Kitchen the author of the anonymous letter? Just who was the biggest liar and twister in the town?"

The report records, in studied prose, what happened when the chief constable and his watch committee fell out. No one quite knows when it started, but the fact that Alderman Roscoe, a member of the committee, was charged with perjury in 1922 on the personal information of the chief constable obviously did not help. The alderman was acquitted but relations did not improve. The 1926 General Strike may have lasted only nine days in May but its cause, the pit strike, continued for many months. Police from Liverpool were drafted in to help the St Helens force, resulting in complaints of "baton charges carried too far and other unnecessary violence".

The watch committee decided to parade the whole force, and lecture it "on the need for care and discretion". An "angry altercation" arose, however, between the chief constable and Councillor Dodd, in front of the men. The chief constable, it was alleged, described Dodd as a "liar and a twister", to which Dodd replied that the chief constable was himself "the biggest liar and twister in St Helens". On another occasion, the chief constable intervened in the proceedings of the watch committee by threatening to arrest one of its members.

In addition to this incident, individual police constables were not averse to lobbying councillors to obtain transfers or other favours. It was suspicious like these which led to the chief constable's rage when riding in the tram car, and the argument described above which led up to the chief's dismissal by the watch committee.

The decision was overruled by the Home Office's report. In a separate report, the inspectors expressed doubts as to whether the chief constable of a borough should be at the mercy of a temporary majority of a watch committee acting perhaps on party line, either in reference to breaches of discipline or in regard to his own tenure of office.

Concern at this municipal shambles no doubt lay behind the decisions of the courts in the 1930s to strengthen the independent role of police constables. Further problems with borough police forces arose in the 1950s in Sheffield, Brighton, and Nottingham. The result was the 1960 Royal Commission and the 1964 Police Act, which gave the chief constable extensive operational independence.

Subsequent police force amalgamations saw the end of single town forces. Members of the present police authorities have powers which are heavily circumscribed by law and Home Office practice; and one third of its members are drawn from the magistracy.

When I published a modest little measure five years ago, the Police Authorities (Powers) Bill, to give those authorities some influence over general policing policy without interfering with operational independence, the reaction was such that I might just as well have drafted a Riot, Anarchy and Mayhem (Envolvement) Bill.

The Police Federation has long taken the view that Labour politicians should be kept out of police matters. Its members barracked the then Labour Home Secretary, Mr. Roy Jenkins, at its annual conference in 1977. In February, 1978, it deliberately set out to make "law n' order" an election issue, with language designed to favour the Conservatives.

In its turn, the government has responded generously. Resources available to the Metropolitan Police, for example, have increased in real terms by one third since 1978-79. The Met's budget at 1984 prices is up from £617 million to £843 million in 1985/6. On any basis the police are exceptionally well paid.

But gratitude is not a quality for which a police force is renowned. At its 1983 conference, Lord Britton received "probably the worst barracking a Conservative Home Secretary has ever had" (*The Times*).

It would be all right for the arrogant men who run the Police Federation if, while offending friends as well as foes, they could point to conspicuous successes in fighting crime such as burglary, robbery and car theft. In some areas outside London there has been real progress - not least in Lancashire. But in the great metropolises the statistics tell a sorry tale of a 26 per cent increase in crime since 1979. And despite Scamman and Newman, there is still room for improvement in police relations, not only with alienated young people but with the ordinary law-abiding public. The old alibi of shortage of resources and poor pay are no longer believed: they do not accord with reality.

What is more, the St Helens affair, and those others which followed, did not prove that local political influence should be wholly removed from policing policy. What is significant about the 1928 report is that the one serious disagreement about policing policy was resolved amicably. This was about where the police imported from Liverpool constables to be deployed. The chief constable said in the pit area; the watch committee said elsewhere, to release local men for the sensitive strikebound areas. The report merely records that "a compromise agreement was reached".

If a few more of such compromises had been permitted during this year's pit strike (and if police authorities had had some greater role in the first place), policing would have been more effective because it would have been more sensitive; with fewer cracked heads, and rather less bitterness.

It was a staff tutor at the Bramshill Police Staff College who commented in 1981 that "Britain's police are political in that policing is a political activity in any society". The sooner Britain's police come to terms with that reality, the better it will be - for them and for us.

The author is Labour MP for Blackburn.

moreover... Miles Kington

When seeing is disbelieving

A bookseller I met in a train the other day claimed he hadn't read a newspaper for fifteen years. Fifteen years ago he had been in the Foreign Office, reading newspapers, and he wouldn't help noticing that whenever they reported on something he knew a lot about, they always got it wrong. He had deduced logically that they were probably getting everything else wrong as well, so he had given up newspapers, and I have to say that he seemed reasonably content and well-informed in spite of this.

A railwayman I met in a train the other day had a grand place for meeting people, the train told me that his eyes had been opened the day he submitted an article on the Flying Scotsman to a paper.

"They printed the article, which contained 38 facts. They got 26 of them wrong, including the number of the locomotive. Actually, it wasn't as bad as the time I was involved in a drowning tragedy in my home town and went to help the bereaved mother. The local paper named me as the bereaved parent, while the mother was named as the head of the fire brigade."

Something like this probably happens to everyone, even if it just involves disagreeing with a review, the were-we-at-the-same-concert? syndrome. The only puzzle is to know how long this has been going on. Well, yesterday, I came across this telling statement:

"The educated man... knows that newspapers are constantly falling into false reasoning about the things within his personal knowledge - that is, within the narrow circle of his special education - and so he assumes that they make the same, or even worse errors about other things, whether intellectual or moral. This assumption, it may be said at once, is quite justified by the facts."

The writer was H. L. Mencksen, and the year was 1914. For someone who works for newspapers, this disillusionment is quite distressing, and I often wonder if there isn't some section of the community who still believe what the papers tell them, some innocent bunch of people who lap it all up.

I think there is. I think it's journalists themselves. Newspapers seem to be constantly reading

other newspapers, avidly swallowing and discussing what is served up, like foodaholics who can't keep away from the smorgasbord. I'm not saying they believe everything they read, but they certainly behave as if they do. How then, can such notoriously hard-bitten people keep their heads from misleading?

I am forced to believe because they do not distinguish between what is in the paper and what is not printed. All journalists are aware that for every good story that gets in, there are ten that do not, and that behind the facts in every good story lurks the real truth of the matter, which they probably came to know after the headline or when the public had lost interest in the story.

The ordinary reader sees only what is in the paper, the newspaperman is aware of a whole web of connections and background material which lies behind it. He sees the tip of the iceberg and applauds the invisible mass underwater.

Poets, to put it another way, learn much from the papers: the journalist himself, who retains all the facts that are sifted out before a story gets in, I am sure is true of television as well. Ask me who learnt most from any David Attenborough documentary on the world we live in, and I will tell you: David Attenborough. Or his producer, or researchers, but at any rate not the public. This, presumably, is why so many foreign correspondents and documentary makers feel impelled to write books afterwards, to get the real story in print.

Which leads me to the curious conclusion that the most trustworthy stories in papers are the articles of sheer opinion. Facts may be wrong, or selectively quoted; opinions never can be. If a man writes that Mrs Thatcher will win the next election, it is sheer speculation. If he writes that he thinks Mrs Thatcher will win the next election, he is absolutely right; he does think she will win it.

I might be totally wrong about everything I have said here, but you can't deny that I do believe it. Or, being a journalist, I will as soon as I read it.

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MIDDLE WAY = MUDDLE WAY

It is so easy to spend somebody else's money. When the Cabinet is tomorrow to review its public spending targets, the temptation to do so will, sadly, be irresistible as it has been through the life of this Government. The Government is spending more and taxing more than its predecessor, having been elected into office - twice - to do exactly the reverse. And still it goes on.

This is not just a question of presentation, although goodness knows that has been extraordinarily maladroit. A government committed to reductions in public spending and then to a general reduction in the burden of taxation will obviously find difficulty in admitting that it has been defeated in those objectives. But it has. An added political difficulty is to go on from that failure to extol the benefits of high spending funded by taxation. That has been the inherent contradiction at the heart of this Government's historic and now, not surprisingly, it is reaping a bitter harvest of confusion among the electorate. This confusion has inevitably distracted public attention from the many other achievements of this Government, both in the management of the economy, inflation, incentives and industrial liberalization.

However the question of public spending goes to the heart of government and its role in western society. That is why this "middle-way" to control spending is so central an issue, and why the consequences of that failure are incalculable. Here we have a Conservative Government, led by such a determined figure as Mrs Thatcher, whose dedication to the reduction of public spending is well known and oft repeated, most recently in Parliament yesterday and in her interview in *The Sun*. Yet even that collection of politicians appears to be swept aside in the torrent of demands by spending departments on the taxpayer's pocket.

About every second year the Prime Minister and her Chancellor of the day have found themselves virtually in a minority of two around the Cabinet table. So it appears again to be the case. And then Mr Lawson the Chancellor, perhaps in an attempt to pre-empt the difficult

political arguments that he can expect tomorrow, or perhaps merely out of exhaustion caused by waging this war almost alone among his big spending colleagues, comes along to suggest that "The Middle Way" is the best course to follow. No phrase could be more inappropriate or defeatist at such a time.

What is this so-called middle way? It sits uneasily, and indefinitely, between the fully collectivized economic system of the Soviet world and the free market economic model, with the state as a minimal presence, espoused by liberal philosophers and economists in the West. Professor Meade has described it as involving "very extensive measures of state planning, ownership, control and intervention", but he would save the private sector from complete suppression.

However, the undeniable character of every mixed economy is that state spending has a momentum which leads to massive continuous and ultimately uncontrollable growth unless it is confronted by a political leadership dedicated not just to its control or "containment" - the vague word of ministers hoping to disguise the measure of their failure - but to its clearly perceived and progressive diminution. Since the war, government spending in all the Western economies has grown faster than national income. As Professor Hayek stated before then in his *Road to Serfdom*: "Both competition and central direction become poor and inefficient tools if they are incomplete; they are alternative principles used to solve the same problem, and a mixture of the two means that neither will really work and that the result will be worse than if either system had been consistently relied upon."

The message is clear: that the so-called "middle-way" is really a muddled way. It derives from the congenial difficulty of politicians to resist the demands made on them by vested interests. In a market oriented economy the influence of vested interests would be reduced. Of course, ministerial power to satisfy those interests would also be reduced. That is why so many leading politicians in a mixed economy make a virtue of public spending, be-

cause it gives them a feeling of power in the way they can respond to the competition for their favours from so many lobbies and vested interests.

Almost every act of government has created a group of winners or losers in that communal share out of taxpayers' money. When governments feel a loss of popularity they attempt to assuage these demands on the basis of satisfying the maximum number with handouts while concealing the effects from those who have to pay for the transfer. Has this Government now joined the rogues' gallery of all its predecessors each of which tried to appease the next lobby at the expense of the last - and more importantly - at the expense of its financial integrity and of the honesty of government? At the end of this road lie more inflation and more intervention, the one based on a deception, the other on an illusion that ministers and civil servants are the best judge of how the taxpayer should spend his money.

The benefits of this inexorable collectivisation are always held up in technicolour, while the costs remain hidden in sepia. The jockeying and lobbying of public sector unions, nationalised industries, and all those parasitical groups (many of them in the private sector) who demand government subsidy, will increase without much thought for the poor old productive private sector - the "common property resource" as economists might call it - which in the end has to pay for this profligacy.

The process is only reversible by a government which actually wants to reverse it rather than merely to tread water in the torrent. It is a dangerous philosophy to believe that the mixed economy can be administered by the proponents of the middle way who believe that the dynamics of public sector spending and private sector growth are somehow equal. To adopt this philosophy is to assume that, if you jump into a raging torrent and then tread water, you will end up on the far bank opposite where you entered the water. No. You will end up far downstream, in a different and less desirable country than the one you left so innocently - or so vainly - on the bank behind.

NUNCIO NUNC DIMITTIS

There was a good deal of murmuring when the Pope first appointed a permanent apostolic legate to Britain in 1938, and his misgivings were strongest in the Roman Catholic Church here. The choice of an Englishman, Archbishop (later Cardinal) Godfrey, was tactful, and English Catholics learnt to live with him. There was certainly some murmuring too, both outside and within that church when in 1982 by agreement with the British Government, the post was uprated to that of apostolic pro-nuncio. But the holder of the former rank who succeeded to the latter, Archbishop Bruno Heim, is himself tact personified. It being so very hard to object to him as an individual, objection to him as the Holy See's ambassador to the Court of St James would have looked foolish.

Thus does diplomacy depend on its success on the personality of the diplomat. And the British adjusted without anxiety to the new relationship of mutual recognition, as it accepted the visit of the Pope himself a few

months later, when for historical reasons both events could have been very troublesome. That they were not, was an achievement for which much of the credit lay with Archbishop Heim. And now he is leaving for retirement, tomorrow the hierarchy marks his departure with a solemn Mass in Westminster Cathedral.

The great majority of the bishops at that Mass owe their positions to him, for it is one of the responsibilities of a papal legate to recommend names for the filling of episcopal vacancies. Since 1973, when he replaced the rather anonymous Archbishop Domenico Enrie, there has been a transformation in style among the English and Welsh bishops, with the gradual replacement of older conservatives by younger and more liberal men. Cardinal Basil Hume, appointed in 1976, was symbolic of that change.

The episcopal conference of England and Wales - one might almost speak of Archbishop Heim's episcopal conference of England and Wales - has

emerged into the mainstream of national life. Its increasing confidence and competence was well displayed by its recent comment on the progress of Anglican-Roman Catholic negotiations, which Anglicans as well as Catholics hailed as most stimulating and positive contribution.

The Vatican would nevertheless be mistaken to think that such normality now reigns in the British-Rome relationship that no special care needs to be taken with Archbishop Heim's replacement. Feelings are still a little sensitive, as the controversy over the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Pope John Paul II proved earlier this year. The wisest course would be to replace him with a man of similar temperament, similar ability to pick up the subtle nuances of English life, and a similar confidence in the Catholic Church of England and Wales to let it go on developing and emerging as it has since 1973. That would be the best enduring tribute to the retiring pro-nuncio.

FIRST BRIDGE ACROSS THE USSURI

The ice-age in Chinese-Soviet relations may be drawing to a close, with the arrival yesterday in Moscow of Mr Yao Yilin, one of China's four deputy prime ministers and the highest-ranking Chinese visitor to the Soviet Union since the rift between the two communist superpowers, twenty-five years ago. In theory, Mr Yao's visit to Moscow is no more than a diplomatic courtesy.

The signals from both Moscow and Peking indicate, however, that it could achieve more. There have already been a number of developments this year, each one small in itself, which have combined to sweeten the atmosphere.

The tone was set publicly at President Chernenko's funeral, when Mr Gorbachev spent an unusually long time in conversation with the chief Chinese delegate. Since then, the Soviet leader has taken the opportunity of almost every public speech to emphasize his conviction that Moscow and Peking can and should improve their relations.

In Peking, major shifts in personnel and policy have taken place over the past 10 years, with the gradual disengagement from the legacy of Mao Zedong. Yet his attitudes to Moscow have re-

mained cool. The Chinese have a number of unresolved quarrels with the Russians, and they are not allowing them to be forgotten. They disapprove of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan; they see the hand of the Kremlin behind Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia, and they take exception to the number of Soviet troops and hardware deployed on the Chinese border. For China, these are the "three big obstacles" to what both sides call "normalization".

Where China has recently held out the prospect of a change, however, is on the definition of normalization. Last month, a senior Chinese official questioned whether the present state of Sino-Soviet relations really was so abnormal after all. The two countries have full diplomatic relations; they have, or soon will have, a comprehensive trade agreement, and they have a series of cultural agreements that could before long add up to the sort of all-embracing cultural agreement friendly countries are expected to have. The only abnormal aspect, for two communist states, is the absence of ideological - or Party to Party - relations. But that only seems abnormal because of the exceptionally close alliance established

between Moscow and Peking in the 1950s - an alliance in which the Chinese were very much the junior partners. Now, the Chinese are making it known that whatever normalization means, it does not mean a return to the relationship of the 1950s.

Such a reassessment of the term normality in Chinese-Soviet relations could offer a way forward. It would, of course, entail concessions by both sides, but they are concessions which are realistic. For Peking, it would mean less stringency on the "three big obstacles" - something that is already being observed. For Moscow, it would mean conceding that ties with Peking will never be as close again as they were thirty years ago.

For Moscow, such a "normalization" would take some of the desperation out of negotiations with the United States by broadening the focus of its foreign policy. For China, better relations with the Soviet Union would make for a more balanced relationship with the United States. It would help the Chinese leadership to argue that it had not sold out either to the United States or to the capitalist way of life, and thus foster the stability of its current policies.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unwanted burden of legal aid

From Ms Penny Cushing

I am a solicitor in a Hackney legal-aid firm. For several consecutive nights during the past week, except when I took my phone off the hook, I have been getting telephone calls at home between the hours of 11.15 pm and 5.30 am from people arrested and detained at Stoke Newington Police Station. None of the callers were existing clients of my firm.

I have been told by the Metropolitan Police that, in anticipation of the introduction of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act in January, 1986, they have embarked on a six-month training scheme whereby people arrested must state whether or not they want to consult a solicitor. If they do, and have no solicitor of their own, they are to be shown the relevant pages of the Solicitors' Regional Directory, which lists solicitors' firms in alphabetical order according to postal district. My firm, and therefore my name and my "emergency" (i.e., home) phone number, is apparently at the top of the list.

The Law Society is currently involved in discussions about the organisation of rates of pay for a 24-hour duty solicitor scheme to start in July 1986, with the introduction of the Act. The aim will be to ensure that a solicitor is available on a rota basis and will be paid for hours on duty and for work done. At present, no solicitor can be paid for telephone advice work under the legal-aid scheme unless the client is seen and advised in person.

The experimental training scheme in the Stoke Newington area seems to have been introduced by the Metropolitan Police without any prior consultation whatsoever with the legal profession. I do not know whether there has been any consultation in other areas in the metropolis.

If I am to be disturbed in this way every night for the next six months, I shall not be in a fit state to do my ordinary work during the day.

The scheme will only be effective if there is a properly organised rota which ensures that solicitors are not at risk of being disturbed while on duty. This fact must be so obvious that one can only conclude that the Commissioner of Metropolitan Police is either extremely shortsighted in this respect, or has no particular interest in the success of the scheme.

The introduction of this training scheme, without prior discussion with the legal profession, is at the very least incompetent; and it is likely to give rise to frustrations on the part of police officers and solicitors which do not bode well for the success of the statutory scheme. Yours faithfully,

PENNY CUSHING, 58a Stoke Newington Road, N16.

Make mine music

From Mr Yehudi Menuhin

Sir, I read with great joy the article in *The Times* (July 3) on making music a part of our daily school life. What an excellent suggestion! We might even learn to distinguish between meaningless noise and meaningful music, even learn to listen to each other, not shout at each other, above all to listen to, and in silence, the begetter of creation.

Best of all would be the imposition of a chorale or Gregorian chant to be sung by the assembled members of Parliament between each session to create the proper atmosphere.

At my music school I have always advocated beginning the scholastic day with singing, followed by some such physical activity as dancing, Hatha Yoga, Tai Chi, or gymnastics to music. The excellent results of such an approach to general education have long since been proven in Hungary, where the general level of all studies has markedly risen since the adoption of the Kodaly method, where children start every morning with singing.

The inspectors say that pupils under the age of seven should be taught songs, take part in improvisation, play by ear and be able to invent a melody. From age seven to 11 children should know many songs by heart, including folk, pop and hymns; be able to improvise and compose music; and play by ear. It is music indeed to my own ears.

Such musical experience, bringing with it those subtle adjustments to pitch and rhythm and the acceptance of dissonance, might teach us an awareness of those whose aims would be to denigrate and thus to weaken the whole fabric of society.

It is my earnest prayer that this fundamental and intelligent report may herald the day when music, "the essential practical subject", becomes part of every child's brightness.

Yours faithfully, YEHUDI MENUHIN, 16 Muswell Hill Road, Highgate, N6.

CND and USSR

From Dr J. M. Lewis and Mr P. Mercer

Sir, According to your report (July 3) of Mr Bruce's Kent's unsuccessful complaint to the Peace Council, after nearly 20 years in the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament he has "yet to meet someone who wanted this country to become 'part of the Soviet empire'". Whatever else the several thousand British Communist Party members understood to be in the CND may want, therefore, they would appear - to Mr Kent's view - no longer to desire the revolutionary transformation of our political system along East European lines. Or don't they?

CND council member and leading

Uphill struggle in higher education

From Professor T. J. Biscoe

Sir, Undeterred by evidence, Sir Keith Joseph presides over the decline of our institutions for higher education. During the six years I have been at University College this department has lost 25 per cent of the academic staff posts, 16 per cent of the technical posts and one secretary. The UGC (University Grants Committee) funds for equipment and supplies are now less in pounds than six years ago in the face of inflation and increased sophistication of equipment. The capital funds for building are derisory.

In spite of this we teach 50 more students than six years ago and continue to carry out fundamental research in basic medical science. Thus the cuts at departmental level are real and severe.

The Government is, of course, inconsistent in its attitude to education in the UK. In this college there are some 681 academic staff, 6,912 students, and 1,900 other staff. The Statement of the Defence Estimates, 1985, vol 2 (Cmd 9430-II) shows in table 6.9 that for all military teaching establishments (e.g., Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, RAF College, Cranwell, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst etc) the comparable total figures are 863 academic staff, 2,907 students and 3,069 other staff where the numbers of academic staff can be calculated from the separate institutional student-staff ratios.

If these figures are correct the University College student-academic staff ratio is 10.15 to 1, whilst the military ratio is 3.37 to 1. A huge disparity also exists for other staff.

It would be interesting to know how these differences can be justified and why the universities can be regarded as inefficient and are being cut so severely when they produce both graduates and advances in knowledge. Is this discrimination against the universities, or is it that the Department of Education and Science does not know what the Department of Defence is doing?

Yours faithfully, T. J. BISCOE, Department of Physiology, University College London, Gower Street, WC1.

From Dr Peter Sice

Sir, Mr Pitt's suggestion (July 4) that redbrick universities search more actively for private donors ignores two important points.

The first is the judgement of history. State grants to higher education were initiated precisely because, even in the age of philanthropy and civic pride, private benefaction could meet neither

the needs of industry nor those of a balanced curriculum. There was simply not enough money for housing, and when it came it was not always invested where the universities would most have liked it. Private benefactors are not always motivated by national needs.

The second is the heart of the criticism levelled by the universities at this present Administration's policy towards higher education. The university is a multi-functional body. It has three basic aims: first, to develop the talent and natural capacity of its students; second, to produce skilled manpower to take its place in the general division of labour; third to preserve and further knowledge.

The three are inseparable. To concentrate on one to the exclusion of the other two is a serious and shortsighted error. Any nation's greatest asset is its brainpower. No nation can afford to undervalue it, no economy can flourish without its extensive application.

Creative, flexible intelligence is the key to our future. It is the contention of the universities that this can best be produced by allowing every student the opportunity to develop his own talents in his own way through an untainted medium of his choice.

There is no guarantee that the private donor will provide for this. The responsibility, and indeed our long-term future, lies with the State.

Yours, PETER SLEE, Department of History, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, July 5.

Academic science

From Professor Sir Ewart Jones, FRS

Sir, While having some sympathy with the points made by Professor Williams in his letter (July 2) I was disappointed at his acceptance of our inability to do anything about Cern. The SERC (Science and Engineering Research Council) still spends about 30 per cent of its funds on "big" science involving only a small fraction (I doubt if it is as much as 2 per cent) of the scientific community of this country.

It is within the power of this community, if it has the will, to rectify this situation with clear messages from its societies and institutions to the research councils and so to bring relief to the deprived and long-suffering majority.

Yours etc, EWART JONES, 6 Sandy Lane, Marston, Oxford.

MPs as consultants

From Sir Paul Bryan, MP for Bournemouth (Conservative)

Sir, An article by your Political Correspondent in your issue of July 4 draws attention to the growing practice of companies to employ MPs as consultants.

It would be beneficial to both Parliament and industry if more MPs became active non-executive directors.

Despite the pressure of modern parliamentary life it is perfectly possible for a senior backbencher to be an effective company director, as shown by Messrs. Prior, Rippon and Sir Edward du Cann, each of whom is chairman of a major company.

The value of ministerial experience to industry and commerce is proved by the extent to which ex-ministers are in demand for top jobs after leaving the House of Commons, e.g., William Deedes, Edmund Dell, Sir John Non and the Lords Aldington, Barber, Boardman, Carr, Errol, Robens, Thorncroft and Watkinson.

Yours faithfully, PAUL BRYAN, House of Commons, July 5.

Serving the purpose

From Mr Bunney Austin

Sir, The shouting and the tumult dies. The champions and the crowds depart. Still stands the modern sacrifice: The victims of the game and the start.

If art can be called a game, my long-time friend and former antagonist, Jean Borotra, is reported in your issue of yesterday's date (July 5) to have said:

The service in the men's game is too dominant. The word service used to be the signal to start play, but now it means finish. It is not so much serve and volley as serve and kill. It is too monotonous.

I agree. I suggest the server be allowed only one serve. The golfer is allowed only one shot from the tee; why should the server be allowed two?

It would make the game definitely more interesting and even more exciting if every time the server prepared to serve he was faced with a decision - to go for an ace or to play safe. It would restore the balance of the game and, one hopes, produce a few more rallies.

Yours faithfully, BUNNEY AUSTIN, 5 Victoria Square, SW1, July 6.

sentenced to hard labour for plotting a Marxist revolution in Nigeria. The Nigerian Government's action was endorsed in the House of Commons by the then Labour Commonwealth Secretary, Arthur Bottomley, on March 30, 1965.

No doubt it would be maintained by CND "spokespersons" that, if Professor Allen's escape had been more successful, Nigeria would have been no more destined to become "part of the Soviet empire" than Britain would be, if ever the Communist Party took control.

Yours faithfully, JULIAN LEWIS, PAUL MERCER, The Coalition For Peace Through Security, 27/31 Whitehall, SW1, July 3.

ON THIS DAY

JULY 10 1867

Ferdinand Maximilian (1832-67) was the brother of the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria. In 1862 Mexico was ruled by a government subservient to France. French troops occupied the country and it was at the insistence of Napoleon III that Maximilian was offered the crown of Mexico. Many of his measures alienated the people; he was ill equipped to rule and when the French withdrew he was betrayed and shot on June 19.

THE EXECUTION OF THE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN

The following account of the last hours and execution of the Emperor Maximilian is taken from a Paris journal, *the Figaro*. "The Emperor was then informed that he had to appear before a council of war."

He protested in writing, "... but I was animated by a laudable sentiment, offered to spare the Emperor's life on condition that he took an oath never again to set foot on Mexican soil, and signed a declaration of his own abdication."

"Spontaneously, and by word of mouth, Maximilian replied that he would accept both conditions with pleasure, provided the officers and soldiers captured with him were also amnestied."

"The three prisoners were brought before this tribunal. Maximilian declined to avail himself of the assistance of an advocate, while Mejia and Miramon chose one to defend them jointly."

"Maximilian simply requested that they might be left together until the last moment. They were then escorted. They were transferred to the building, formerly a convent, which served as a hospital for the French troops, because the hall on the ground was too small and crowded, and had a pleasant prospect out upon the garden of the interior court."

"The only person allowed to enter was the Abbé Fischer, secretary and religious adviser of the Emperor. Some time before the Bishop of Queretaro arrived, offering his sacred ministrations, which was accepted after a brief consultation between the prisoners. The night was passed in quiet conversation, and the condemned men confessed to the confessor, who was greatly moved by the wound in his eye, which he constantly bathed with cold water. Mejia fell into a deep sleep."

"Maximilian asked for paper and pens, which, in the night, were found with him. He wrote two letters - one in German, addressed to his mother, the Archduchess Sophia; and the other to his wife. He confided them to the bishop, begging him to have them forwarded. He added a lock of his hair, which he wished to be given to the guards and cut off for him."

"After mass Maximilian appears to have remained for a long time kneeling on the hard stones - for there was no prie Dieu - with his head bent and his hands over his eyes."

"Don Gonzales then made a sign to Maximilian to move forward. The Emperor advanced courageously, saying to the two Generals - 'Vamos a la libertad' (Let us go to freedom)."

"When the procession reached the summit of the hill Maximilian looked steadily for a moment at the rising sun, then taking out his watch, he pressed a spring which concealed a portrait in miniature of the Empress Charlotte. He kissed it, and handing the chain to the Abbé Fischer, said 'Carry this watch to the Empress. It is my wife and, if she be ever able to understand you, say that my eyes closed with the impression of her image which I shall carry with me above!'"

"The cortege had now reached the great exterior wall of the fortress, and the bells were slowly tolling, a funeral knell; only those composing the escort were present, for the crowd had been barred from ascending the hill."

"Three small benches, with the wooden crosses, were placed against the wall. The value of ministerial experience to industry and commerce is proved by the extent to which ex-ministers are in demand for top jobs after leaving the House of Commons, e.g., William Deedes, Edmund Dell, Sir John Non and the Lords Aldington, Barber, Boardman, Carr, Errol, Robens, Thorncroft and Watkinson."

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Yours faithfully, JULIAN LEWIS, PAUL MERCER, The Coalition For Peace Through Security, 27/31 Whitehall, SW1, July 3.

Little-known phrases

From Mr and Mrs Paul Heiney

Sir, It is not only in foreign tongues that the forceful and striking phrase is to be found (Miles Kingston, July 2). British codes have their share, as well.

We have been researching into ways in which the long traditions of the sea can sustain the modern plastic-boat sailor, and have come upon a fine book of *Universal Yacht Signals*, by George Holland Ackers, from the 1890s.

Hoist 3761 signifies: "Can I have a quart of turtle soup?" 9852 requests the "Marmalade - orange juice special", and 1704, followed by the hour, ensures that a vapour bath be prepared for the owner.

But the phrase which for sheer comfortable largeness and utility beats the lot must be one of flags 6419. Translated: "I can strongly recommend my washerwoman."

Yours sincerely, E. PURVES, PAUL HEINEY, Patle's Farm, Knodishall, Suffolk, July 8.

MR FRANK HAMPSON
Creator of Dan Dare

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THE ARTS

Theatre

'Going native' in the old Raj

Bengal Lancer
Lyric, Hammersmith

East Friday the sultry heat of Hammersmith put the Lyric's hibernating computer out of action. By Monday night the problem had been rectified and we were given the sultry heat of the North West Frontier in pinks, greens, blues and the occasional blistering white. Beneath swags of drapery suggesting tented luxuriance a tailor's dummy stood rooted in foot-hills of sand, while elsewhere in Bob Crowley's diverse set a steamer trunk yawned and water splashed endlessly into a circular tub.

Tim Pigott-Smith, giving here a one-man show which follows opportunely on from his celebrated television excursion into the heart of the Raj, has much need of this lighting. He is, I believe, an average actor who has a certain facility for anecdotal characterization without showing great evidence of sustained dramatic power. This is by no means a compelling evening's entertainment.

Still, Michael Joyce's production gives the memoirs in the audience a value for money. As Mr Pigott-Smith changes in and out of costume - Review Order Blues, a fortnight, a rather fetching pair of blue pyjamas - with only the thinnest swathe of descending drapery to shield them from the essential heat. It should be recorded that the actor handles all this with great aplomb.

William Ayot's script is based on the memoirs of Francis Years-Brown, a crack polo-player in the 17th Lancers who seems to have responded more sensitively than his fellows in the richness of Indian culture in

the first decade of this century. Initially a bit of a silly ass ("One could sign a chit for practically anything") the young subaltern matures as a result of experiences beyond his comprehension: the suicide of a brother officer driven to despair by the realization that in the dry season his mind's eye could no longer summon up the colour green; the horrifying ravages of cholera; the "suicide" of dogs from the top of a mausoleum.

Here is the story of an inquiring mind given almost too much raw material to grasp in one lifetime. We see him smoking hashish in Afghanistan, falling for a mercenary nauch girl, standing in awe at his first sight of the Himalayas, fighting a king cobra summoned up by a hired tantric. He seeks enlightenment from a succession of mystics whose final recommendation is "go away and suffer". This he duly does, but in France and Mesopotamia during the First World War rather than in the heat and dust of his beloved India.

His singularity leads him in read books instead of playing snooker, and at one stage of his career he finds himself pursuing philosophy in the morning and puns in the afternoon. These contradictions are never resolved, and Mr Ayot has had the right instinct in avoiding the temptation to tie up the loose ends of what was evidently an extraordinary character. As his script suggests, a great number of English soldiers of this period were in no position, literally, to "go native" since they were themselves natives of India. But the British were the first conquerors whom India had never changed. Discuss.

Martin Cropper



Tim Pigott-Smith: quick changes with great aplomb

The Three Musketeers

Greenwich

The genre of historical romance is presumably lost beyond recovery. No one will ever take seriously again the posturing declarations of love and patriotism, the heroic deeds against all odds undertaken to save England, or France, or Ruritania. Certainly not Phil Woods, who puts Dumas's tale through the mangle and comes up with an "audience participation fun show".

Encouragement to sing "Frère Jacques" comes early on, and participation reaches an enthusiastic peak when audience (English) and cast (French) lob rubber cannon-balls at one

another during the siege of La Rochelle. Story and characters are burlesqued; theatrical conventions are mocked when we are informed, by a grandly intoning Cardinal Richelieu, that eight of the parts are to be played by the "stage carpenter". Sure enough, the name Mickey O'Donoghue is credited with the roles of Duke of Buckingham, Ducen of France and a wide range of supernumeraries including the Huguenot Army and a talking parrot.

I feel to look for subtlety of playing here, or firmness in plotting, or indeed any point to the production by Ian Giles. The fun show tries to be a jolly romp through a medley of half-familiar adventures, pantomime characterizations and dreadful puns ("Rue

Quasimodo? "That rings a bell"). The first half ends with the Queen playing "Diamonds are a girl's best friend" on the saxophone. I can enjoy a little of this sort of thing but not a whole evening, though I must note a generally appreciative reception by an audience of all ages.

The production is strenuously physical. Just as the comic duels are outstaying their welcome the action changes to sword-punging and rough-and-tumble. The Musketeers fight foul, particularly Aramis, performed in pink, with licks to the groin played for laughs. Molidy and her confidante also gouge and bite - more laughter - in rough-house scenes reminiscent of brawls in a Western saloon.

Assassins lurk in arcades, eavesdroppers ensure that no plot goes unthwarted. The excellent Granville Saxton strides about as a knowing Cardinal; Robin Davies does the arms-akimbo bit for D'Artagnan. But all the fun with a puppet king and the exclamations in unison cannot disguise the emptiness at the heart of the enterprise. Jokes shrivel with the unexpected murder of D'Artagnan's true love, and the ensuing pranks with a guillotine are an attempt at gallows-humour that fails completely. Laughable though historical romances may be today, they could reach out to passions far beyond the scope of simple-witted burlesque.

Jeremy Kingston

Sheridan Morley meets the playwright Christopher Hampton, whose *The Philanthropist* is revived at Chichester tonight

Classicist in a romantic world

Remarkably few dramatists on the verge of their fortieth birthday can look back on almost twenty years of major London productions, so perhaps the idea of Christopher Hampton coming up for revival already is not as unenvyingly premature as it might at first appear. Tonight Patrick Garland at Chichester brings back his play *The Philanthropist* for the first time in 15 years, with Edward Fox now playing the title role and John Wells in that created by Dinsdale Landen. It was the only play Hampton actually wrote during his two-year stint as the Royal Court's first resident dramatist, though it then took more than another year to reach the stage, as he now recalls:

"I think I suffered from what I call commissioners' droop. It is a condition in which a group of people at a theatre, which several of them start to fantasize the kind of play they would like to do. Then when it arrives and is different, simply because they didn't write it and you did, a lot of

disappointment sets in. One or two people liked it, though. William Gaskill wanted to do it but couldn't get Alan Bates. Then three other Court directors tried to get their favourite actors for it and all failed. Lindsay Anderson told me it was frivolous. By then I was already beginning to feel that my time at the Court were over. I was a lot less puritanical than most of the younger playwrights I was hating in there, like Cee. I've always thought the theatre was there to be enjoyed, and that people having a good time at a play didn't automatically rule out a serious theme. Also, I had decided ideas about poetry, and wanting to leave well-meaning behind me at a time when immediacy was all."

Exile has been one of the major themes of his more recent work, from *Savages* through to *Tales from Hollywood*, and there is a sense in which Hampton himself has always seemed exiled from his own generation by his very early success. The playwrights who first achieved fame with him were not the Davids or the

Howards who are his immediate contemporaries; rather were they the generation of Tom Stoppard and Peter Nichols and David Storey, an older group of staunch individualists lacking a cohesive political identity and all committed to a well-scrubbed theatricality often abandoned by those who came immediately afterwards.

For Hampton, born in the Azores and educated in Aden and Alexandria before being sent home to Lancashire on the last bus out of Suez in 1956, *The Philanthropist* (his third play) has always been the big money-maker. "It ran three and a half years in London, though it's not done as well abroad. My principal recollection of Germany is sitting in some alien theatre getting increasingly unhappy about the translation until it was time to be called up on stage and booed by an audience. But it's a play which doesn't seem to have dated much, not to be especially rooted in its own time, which was essentially 1968, the year I graduated from Oxford. One read in the papers of all the student unrest in Europe, and the only demonstration I could recall in all my Oxford time was one to complain about the college gates being locked at midnight. But my French tutor was very big in Parisian student politics and always hurrying off to issue paving stones to large numbers of French activists, which meant I didn't have to go to too many of his lectures. So I had a lot of time to think about the differences between English and French attitudes, and then I began thinking about Moliere and *Le Misanthrope* and I realized that in the late 1600s it wouldn't be a truth-teller who annoyed everybody, but instead somebody who just tried to be nice to everyone in an age of



Christopher Hampton: building plays in last

ridiculous. Somebody who temporarily couldn't be rude to anyone; that's the Philanthropist."

Hampton's first play (*When Did You Last See Mr. Mother?*) was written between the end of his Lancashire schooldays and the start of his Oxford career.

"I'd decided I wanted to be a writer, and I had about ten months to fill in, so I worked on a novel and then a play. I knew enough to trust the novel through various publishers' letterboxes, though none of them ever did it, but I had no idea at all what you were supposed to do with a play, so I kept it in my desk until the OUDS were asking for new student dramas. They in fact then turned it down until they discovered the play they had chosen was vastly too expensive to stage, so rather grudgingly they came back to mine, staged it in three weeks and got a good review in the *Guardian*."

As a result the Royal Court staged it in 1966 when Hampton was still an undergraduate; they then did his second play, *Total Eclipse*, in 1968, and invited him to join them as soon as he left Oxford.

"They invented a job for me running a script department on seven pounds a week, and after a while I was allowed to bring in David Hare as an assistant so that I could go off and write *The Philanthropist*. But I was very lucky to get that staged at all; in those days it was almost obligatory for theatres to reject the work of their own resident dramatists, and the Court was always very uneasy about a big commercial success, which this was. But it did make me enough money to go off and research *Savages* in South America, and it might have done all right on Broadway except that the *New York Times* review was headed 'A Literary Import' and that really killed its chances."

When he left the Court in the mid-Seventies, Hampton was for the first time in his life away from the structure of a school, college or regular job, and it

took him a long time to establish his own discipline. "I had a very bleak time in the late 1970s. Robert Kidd, the director I had always worked with, died tragically young and after that I lost about three years writing screenplays for films that were never made. In that time I also began to think to do a lot of translations for the National and the RSC, and lately there have been rather more of those than anything else."

Indeed, as soon as *The Philanthropist* gets relaunched at Chichester with a view then to London in the autumn if all goes well, Hampton goes to Bradford where the RSC are starting to rehearse his translation of *Lolita's dangerousness*.

"For a long time I seemed only to be writing translations or films after *Travels* failed in 1976 I really didn't know quite what to do in the theatre. I didn't seem to belong anywhere in particular. In form and style I suppose I am a classicist at a time when the theatre is very nervous in its politics. I have an unshakeable fascination with the shape of a play, which is why they now take me years to write. I want to build them to last. I also find it very hard to write about the present except in the disguise of the past; I've recently been doing the television adaptation of *Hotel du Lac*, and now I'm doing one based on the story of an Englishwoman in Japan between the wars. But nothing is ever totally historic: *Tales from Hollywood* was about writers in exile now as well as then, at least if you took the trouble to see it that way."

Happy married with two young daughters, Hampton now makes most of his living from adaptations of one kind or another, though there is a new play on the typewriter and he feels understandably enough that his last one, *Tales from Hollywood*, was cut off in its prime at the National by scheduling problems which were not of his making.

"I sometimes feel that both the RSC and the National are far too prodigal with their hits, and the life of a new play seems to you go with a script that needs a large cast these days? All I really ask now is that my imagination should be engaged by a project. I did *Hotel du Lac* purely because I knew I would enjoy it. But I still don't enjoy Hollywood very much when I asked Twentieth Century Fox why they had changed the title on my Graham Greene adaptation from *The Honourable Consul* to *Beyond the Link*, they said because in the first title only the first word would be understood by American filmgoers. Just another literary import that got lost somewhere along the way."

Drug abuse, like terrorism, is a social evil which has been worsened by irresponsible treatment in the media. Kicking the Habit (ITV) was a documentary which made a good attempt at reparation, in that it added much useful and accurate information to the body of public knowledge about the ways in which heroin-users can stop, and achieved this in a rational style without any trace of hysterical moralizing.

Television's fault has mostly been to remain silent on the hot topic of heroin addiction while the popular press has shamelessly hyped up a "killer drug" mythology in order to boost their circulations where lotteries had flagged. Part of this mythology is the idea that heroin is almost always fatal and that addicts are without any reasonable hope of a cure.

The documentary quoted one survey of long-term addicts which estimated 20 per cent would die but 50 per cent would cease using heroin without any

Television

Sanity on sickness

formal help. It also introduced, quite casually, a group of long-term addicts most of whom had been using heroin on and off for periods of 15 or 20 years.

The documentary visited two treatment centres and talked to a wide variety of people with heroin problems, all but one of whom were presented as drug-free and living with a useful degree of self-control some months after filming was completed.

The life-style of drug subculture was carefully divested of its nihilistic glamour, an element in one treatment programme was designed to defeat the addicts' "tendency to see

themselves as tragic heroes" by encouraging them to fool around.

The approaches to coming off the drug were as different as the personalities and social backgrounds of the programme's subjects. A pretty, seductive girl with a middle-class accent withdrew with the help of a boyfriend, in a thatched country cottage. In Chester, a parents' self-help group argued with teenagers on the street. This group monitored its successes by asking the young men to give urine samples for testing twice a week, an intrusion which the police rarely dare to make but one which evidently works.

A doctor, himself a former heroin addict, related the mental stages which he has observed to precede withdrawal to the stages which the bereaved go through in coming to terms with their grief - including denial of the problem, anger, depression and finally acceptance.

Celia Brayfield

Dance

Olegin Coliseum

Natalia Makarova's eagerly-awaited *Tatiana* in London Festival Ballet's production of *Olegin* on Monday was something really tremendous. The ballet is on all this week, and well worth seeing with any of its casts, but she is dancing again tonight and on Friday (if you get the chance to beg, buy or steal a ticket, do not miss it).

In the first act she plays very, very quietly: there is a hint of something personal in the awkwardness with which she greets Lensky, a reminder that she is scarcely older than her little sister and a lot less confident, but after that she lets Olegin dominate her whether in the flesh or in her dreams.

It is at the Larins' party that Makarova really begins to make the role her own, with the special awareness she brings to Tatiana's confusion while dancing with Prince Gremmin with all her thoughts on Olegin. Michael Pink's exceptional kindness and gentleness as Gremmin heighten the pathos of her fluttering anxiety.

All this is building towards the climax of the third act - and she rightly makes her duet with Gremmin one of those climaxes, dancing with a rapturous sense of happiness in her wedding state. The big, sweeping arcs of movement that possessed her in her dream of love with Olegin are echoed here, but with more gentleness, more sweetness, more confiding trust.

Consequently, when Olegin tries to break back into her life again, her torment is agonizing. She now knows what she lost when he rejected her, she wants it more than ever, but realizes that she must refuse. Makarova makes every quiver of emotion tell, for instance, the hand that earlier trembled almost excessively in trying to comfort Lensky before his duel needs only the slightest tremor to bring back the image of what she is now controlling.

And the look on her face when left alone at the end is something terrible to see: a chillingly awesome moment until the fall of the curtain breaks the spell and releases a great roar of applause.

Makarova's absolute conviction in the character does wonders for Alexander Sombar's Olegin. He has always partnered exceptionally well in this role, and danced his solos with stylish grace; but Makarova makes one see him with Tatiana's eyes, imposing an illusion of glamour (as, indeed, Pushkin's poem implies). The effect rubbed off so that he maintained it even without Makarova's presence during the scene when he recalls his years of restless wandering.

John Percival

Concerts

Controlled hysteria

Simon Limbrick
Almeida Theatre

A percussionist is not like any other solo musician: he is a one-man orchestra, and also, as Simon Limbrick showed in his recital on Monday night, a one-man theatre. Simple but effective lighting picked him out in a variety of instrumentalities: amid gongs and Balinese bonang (they look like bronze saucers) for Claude Vivier's incantatory *Cinq Chansons*, leaning over a frame set with keyed instruments and drum-heads for Andrew Poppy's relentlessly repetitive *Edin Revue*, and poised above tom-toms for a piece by David Owen that I would like to hear again without amplification.

These were all in the first half. The second was more outspokenly theatrical. Mr Limbrick came on pacing to "choreography" by Jan Spink for his own *One Small Step*, where the joke was that any but the smallest steps were greeted by hissing and pings triggered by sensors over his boiler-suit: it is a wheeze that might be used magically within a larger ballet or opera.

LSO/
Rozhdensky
Barbican/Radio 3

To demonstrate, presumably, that this concert opened a festival we were offered Shostakovich's Festival Overture. Since it was the City of London Festival, Vaughan Williams's *A London Symphony* was in the programme. And, perhaps because the concert was sponsored by a bank, a solid and safe chunk of Brahms was included. The Trustees Savings Bank's customers will be delighted to know that their money also purchased about 30 seconds of the Kneller Hall trumpeters, who delivered something very loud in B flat by Walton.

So it was almost the ultimate formula concert, but with one wild card: the presence of Gennadi Rozhdensky who, as is well known, is not a condoner. He is however a man for the festive occasion, and his performance of the Vaughan Williams had just the right mixture of swagger, romance and mystery.

Eschewing the podium in favour of a comradely proximity to his front-desk players, the Russian seemed 'in' revel in these atmospheric tone-pictures: bustling the first movement's folk tunes along with tripping jauntiness, and capturing the diaphanous excitement of the scherzo. More effective still was his handling of

mystical moments such as the work's opening, where hushed, divided strings seemed to suggest Thomas Tallis on a day trip to the capital, or the ending where the great climax was suddenly cut back and the Westminster chimes sketched with the quietest of harp notes.

In the slow movement, too, one could forgive the occasionally loose ensemble (a customary yet endearing aspect of this conductor's performance) for this beautifully delineated portrait of "Blossomsbury in November", fading into nothing at the end with a perfectly controlled viola solo.

Was Bloomsbury ever this tranquil? Even when it was written this symphony, for all its charm, probably represented a fairly idealized portrait by a Romantic looking out from a Chelsea attic window. One wonders whether Rozhdensky conducts it in Moscow; it would probably confirm the Russians' worst suspicions about us, just as the brass, compass jingoism and banal fanfares of the Shostakovich overture tend to confirm our worst suspicions about them.

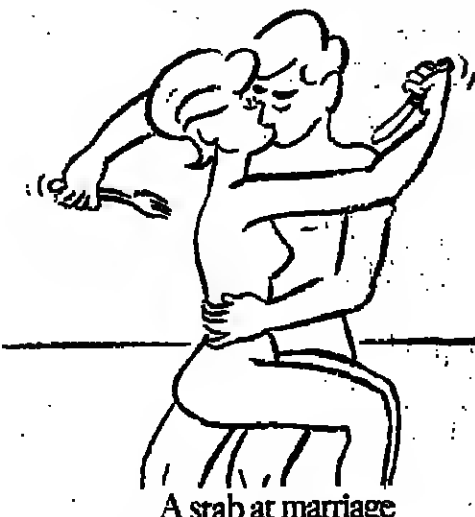
Oscar Shumsky's performances can never be said to lack heart or character. But one wished in this reading of Brahms's Violin Concerto that he had played at least a few bars with the rhythms absolutely as written and with his tuning conforming more obviously to that of the players around him.

Richard Morrison

GARY BOND NICHOLA McAULIFFE in A STATE OF AFFAIRS

By GRAHAM SWANNELL

Directed by PETER JAMES



A stab at marriage

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(New Eagle Ballet)/
La Bayadere
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Vardi Capricci/Enigma Variations/
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The Satellite...
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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Sterling soars above monetary confusion

The latest indicators present such contrasting pictures of what are tactfully called "monetary conditions" that they will test both the markets and the Chancellor of the Exchequer and may even oblige the authorities to reveal by their actions exactly what monetary policy is.

At present, the dollar's renewed weakness is feeding straight into the pound in an exaggerated form. The dollar proved the main stimulus to the sharp rise in the pound yesterday - it topped \$1.37 at one point - but sterling also gained against the mark, which is normally seen as the first alternative to the US currency. The reason is simple enough. The hot money that backed the dollar is such prodigious quantities as chasing high interest rates. Now that it is time to quit the dollar, the pound offers the highest interest rates available on any leading currency, by a considerable - even eccentric - margin.

If the foreign exchanges are today's top monetary indicator, the authorities should be pushing for base rate cuts. Patently our interest structure is destabilising the pound, albeit in an upward direction.

Last night, however, caution was the watchword following the announcement of the first batch of money supply figures for June. Even here, you have to choose what is the real monetary target. The de-throned chief indicator, M3, rose an unhealthy 2 per cent and M0, the base money target, by 0.75 per cent. That pushes the 12 month M3 up from 11.3 per cent to 12 per cent, but edges the running figure for M0 down from 3.5 to 3.25 per cent.

The contrast might matter more if the one-month increases for both indicators were not so bad, compared with annual middle-of-the-range targets of 5 per cent for M0 and 7 per cent for M3. There are no obvious excuses on M0, although the relevance of this figure in terms of interest rates one way or the other remains obscure.

There was undoubtedly some distortion to M3 as a result of the Abbey Life share issue which put £4 billion of "money" into bank suspense accounts on the make-up date. How much of this will turn out to be real money when the cheques were cashed or returned is anyone's guess. The Bank of England has made its usual adjustments, knocking 60 per cent off the suspense accounts and 40 per cent off the total amount of bank lending, on the assumption that this proportion was temporarily borrowed by banks.

The Bank is by no means confident that it is right. If not, it seems more likely that it has underestimated the money total.

High noon for US budget

Fur is beginning to fly over the American Budget stalemate. Yesterday President Reagan told a lunchtime audience of regional newspaper editors that the budget process appeared to have broken down, and laid the blame squarely on the House of Representatives. The House could fairly retort that the President is obstructing deficit reduction by continuing to oppose cuts in defence spending or increases in taxation.

The two houses of the Congress appeared misleadingly close to agreement last month by proposing rather similar-sized reductions in the deficit, totalling \$56 billion for the 1986 fiscal year. The Senate's cut was bigger for subsequent years, but still roughly of the same order as the House's. However, the contents of each House's package were very different, with the Senate proposing quite substantial cuts in social security that were firmly rejected by the House.

Both Houses have agreed cuts in

defence, though the House has wielded a bigger axe. Both were prepared to trim Medicare. But the House also assumes a higher reduction in the burden of interest payments, which earned it the President's scorn yesterday. Mr Reagan accused it of inventing savings.

Clearly any budget reduction would yield dividends in the form of reduced interest on federal debt, now easily the fastest-rising component of federal expenditure. Outstanding debt has risen by 10 per cent of American national income in a mere six years. The House may well be unrealistic in assuming its proposed policy changes would slice \$17 billion off interest payments by 1988, but the President is being equally unrealistic in supposing the present impasse can be resolved without tax increases. The compromise now being considered by Congress includes quite substantial increases in taxation, and the President will be forced to bend his mind to the problem sooner or later.

Dashwood breaks ground

Dashwood Finance, the modest City-based company chaired by Sir David Aziz, has signed a path-finding protocol agreement with the Chinese government to construct a number of agro-industrial projects in China.

The multi-million pound deal is likely to include plans to process and package vegetable products, fish, meat and fruit juices both for export and for the Chinese home market.

Dashwood will manage the projects, in different locations in China and is likely to invest in some of them as a minority shareholder. The protocol between the central government and a foreign firm is most unusual. Previous agreements with foreign companies have been mainly for specific projects or at provincial level.

Dashwood has for many years specialised in setting up turnkey industrial and agro-industrial projects in developing countries.

Sir David Aziz has developed contacts in traditionally difficult markets for British exports and insists on maximum British content for machinery exports.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	932 (-19.2)
FT-AI Share	599.35 (-6.42)
FT Govt Securities	82.53 (+0.04)
FT-SE 100	129.6 (-18.6)
Bargains	20.452
Dataseam USM	97.07 (-0.69)
New York	1325.49 (-2.91)
Dow Jones	1325.49 (-2.91)
Tokyo	13,021.01 (-8.64)
Nikkei Dow	1565.04 (-1.85)
Hong Kong	218.01 (-2.9)
Amsterdam	802.3 (+5.3)
Sydney: AO	1449.8 (-22.9)
Frankfurt	339.99 (-2.32)
Commerzbank	216.5 (-1.7)
Brussels	387.70 (-2.10)
General	339.99 (-2.32)
Paribas CAC	216.5 (-1.7)
Zurich	387.70 (-2.10)
SKA General	387.70 (-2.10)

GOLD

London fixing	am \$314.80pm-\$314.85
close	\$315.25-\$315.75 (2280.75-2312.25)
New York	Comex \$315.25

TV plan stopped

The Satellite Broadcasting Board, set up to run a British direct broadcast satellite system, has been formally wound up.

US and Britain back laws to end unitary taxation

By Michael Prest and Bailey Morris

Pressure for the abolition of unitary tax in the United States intensified yesterday when the Federal Government proposed legislation to provide states with detailed information on multinational companies.

The British Government also raised the stakes by supporting an amendment to the Finance Bill which would allow retaliatory action against American companies. The amendment was due to be debated in the early hours of this morning.

Unitary tax imposes a charge by comparing, for example, the property, payroll and sales of a company in a state with the same categories of the company's activities worldwide. The normal procedure is to levy a tax simply on profits made in that state. At the moment, six American states, of which California is much the most important, impose unitary taxation.

The system often results in companies paying very high local taxes and has led to leading European and Japanese

companies freezing or curtailing their investment in the United States.

United States Treasury officials said yesterday that the draft legislation was designed to help states collect taxes and disengage them from adopting unitary taxation.

The purpose of the legislation is to allay fears among states that companies do not report the true extent of their operations. These fears have encouraged the spread of unitary taxation.

Mr Michael Grylls, Conservative MP for Surrey North-west, who was due to move the House of Commons amendment, last night welcomed the American move. He said: "I'm extremely encouraged by that. It's clear they're moving in the right direction. But we still want to see the colour of their money."

Mr Grylls said that his amendment laid out three criteria by which the Inland Revenue would be empowered to deprive American companies



Michael Grylls: welcomes the US move

of their Advanced Corporation Tax relief. The clause puts the onus on the company to prove that it is entitled to the relief.

The criteria for assessing whether a company falls under the terms of the clause are: having 7.5 per cent or more of its property, payroll or sales in a state imposing unitary tax; or

having its principal place of business in a state imposing unitary tax.

Mr Grylls said that the powers will be backdated to April 1, this year and that companies which are judged to have accelerated dividend payments may be subject to a fine worth twice their ACT relief. Most American multinationals should be covered by the clause.

The new American federal government plan emerged after President Reagan rejected tougher Treasury proposals for legal restrictions on unitary tax. The new plan would require multinationals to file annual reports with the US Internal Revenue Service on their overseas operations and on their methods of calculating local tax liabilities.

These plans would embrace companies with total assets of \$250 million or more, and companies which have assets, sales or yearly compensation of \$1 million or more in foreign countries.

Big demand for M&S cards

By Patience Wheatcroft

Marks and Spencer has now issued more than 800,000 of its charge cards and is receiving new applications at the rate of more than 20,000 a week.

The extent of the demand has led to mistakes and complaints from customers. M&S is so concerned about these that at yesterday's packed annual meeting there was a special stand with six staff to cope with queries on the charge card. To the company's relief fewer than half a dozen shareholders made use of the facility.

M&S has now drafted in its own executive and staff to help Bank of Scotland's subsidiary North West Securities run the card business, and after three years it will be taking over the whole operation. "Over 7 per cent of our sales are now being

done on the card and we believe it is increasing sales," Lord Rayner, the chairman said.

He told shareholders that all departments were trading well and that ladies' and children's wear, areas with which the company had had difficulties in the past, were showing particular improvement.

Asked about Sunday trading, Lord Rayner said that the company was extremely reluctant to trade on seven days a week. "We already have stores in Scotland where we could legally open on Sundays and we don't," he said. He added that M&S policy was to do its business in six days a week but perhaps with extended hours on two days a week.

Lord Rayner intends that M&S should continue to expand, both in and out of town centres. Several more satellite stores are planned for towns where the existing M&S is not big enough to take the entire range. So far the satellites are being restricted to children's items, but the fast-expanding homeware business is an obvious candidate for future satellites.

The company is also in partnership with Tesco to develop large out-of-town sites, and the first planning application has already been made at Chesham, Hertfordshire.

In the year to March, M&S made pre-tax profits of £303 million and made a political contribution of £25,000 to British United Industrialists which backs the Conservative Party.

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Suspension of Posgate confirmed

By Alison Eadie

Lloyd's of London yesterday confirmed the sentence of suspension for six months on Mr Ian Posgate, the former "star" underwriter at the insurance market.

It also confirmed the sentence of expulsion against the former chairman of Alexander Howden, Mr Kenneth Grob, against the former Howden directors, Mr Ronald Comery and Mr Jack Carpenter, and against Mr Mario Benbassat, who was the managing director of the Banque du Rhone et de la Tamise.

Mr Grob and Mr Comery were found guilty on seven of the eight charges against them, which included secretly owning and controlling Southern International Re, a Panamanian corporation, for their own improper purposes; using SIR to funnel misappropriated money into their own pockets and falsifying Alexander Howden accounts.

Mr Carpenter was found guilty on two charges. One concerned with SIR and the second being part of a conspiracy with Mr Grob and Mr Comery and Mr Benbassat, to buy the Banque du Rhone from Alexander Howden with funds derived from Lloyd's syndicates of which Mr Posgate was the underwriter.

Mr Posgate was cleared of charges of misappropriating funds, but was found guilty of accepting a gift of a Picasso painting as an inducement to place business with Howden and not disclosing his stake in the Banque du Rhone.

Lloyd's also yesterday issued a draft code of practice on preferred underwriting or baby syndicates. A baby syndicate is exclusively limited to the underwriter, family and friends and it takes the best business to the detriment of the underwriters' other names.

IN BRIEF

'Concern' at 600 Group

About 300 shareholders in the 600 Group, the machine tool and engineering company, have been circled with a letter expressing "serious concern" about the performance of the company's share price over the last 20 years.

The letter comes from Mr David Wilson, an accountant and former employee of the 600 Group.

Mr Wilson says he will be putting questions to the company's chairman, Sir Jack Wellings at the annual meeting at the end of this month and that he will be attempting to form a shareholders' action group if he receives inadequate answers.

Pound up

The pound reached a two-year high against the German mark yesterday, closing in London at DM4.0350. Its London close against the dollar was \$1.3667, more than 5 cents up on the day and the highest level since June 1983. The sterling index closed at 83.2, its highest since March, 1984.

Bids cleared

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, as expected, has decided not to refer Burnon Group's bid to acquire Debenhams' and its proposed acquisition of Collier Holdings to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Stakis buys

Stakis has paid the Church Commissioners for England £3.58 million for the surrender of the existing lease and the grant of a new 175-year lease for the 244-room Stakis St Ermin's Hotel and adjoining commercial and office premises in central London.

British Petroleum's managing director, Mr Robert Horton, said yesterday that an oil price collapse was unlikely. "I don't believe for a moment that the price of oil will collapse," he said. "Indeed I am even cautiously hopeful that the community of interest in maintaining a modicum of stability will dawn on those whose motives seem to be to punish Opec."

Ansbacher stake

Pargesa and Groupe Bruxelles Lambert will soon hold 74.73 per cent of the shares in Henry Ansbacher Holdings, the merchant banking group, which unveiled an emergency £33 million rights issue two months ago to cover heavy losses.

Bank appointed

County Bank has been appointed by the Department of Transport to act as advisor on the proposed privatization of the British Airports Authority.

Market debuts

The London Gold Market has accepted 26 new associate member firms.

Tempus

We regret the absence of the Tempus column. It will be resumed tomorrow.

WALL ST WIRE

US markets troubled by twin fears

From Maxwell Newton New York

The financial markets are under two influences. Bonds are still falling as a result of fear about excessive money growth and the recently introduced 8 per cent federal funds rate policy.

But the dollar is falling rapidly on expectations of a weaker US economy. Attention is concentrating on this Friday's retail sales numbers. A negative result is expected.

As the dollar falls, this is assisting the oil futures which are up sharply.

By mid-morning the Treasury bell-wether bond had fallen 1/2 to 108 1/2, and the September T-Bond futures had fallen 1/2 to 72 1/2.

This was a continuing reaction to fears of a tighter Federal Reserve policy aroused by the big rise in money M1 last Friday and by the switch to a federal funds target of around 8 per cent in the past two weeks.

The financial markets are also worried about the prospect of a further big rise in money M1 tomorrow.

Meanwhile, September marks rose a further 20 to 33.9 and September sterling rose 180 to 1.3545.

Gold and silver were largely unaffected by the rise in the non-dollar currencies. In the oil markets, however, there was much more buoyancy. August crude oil rose 24 cents to 27.23. August heating oil rose 103 to 68.40 and August leaded gasoline rose 47 to 79.20.

New oil wells

Conoco, the American oil company, hopes to sink two more exploratory wells near Oxted, Surrey, after the discovery of what they believe to be a huge oil field.

RENOLD
An international engineering group

Summary of Results for the year ended 30th March 1985

	1985 £m	1984 £m
Turnover	121.4	116.2
Profit before Tax	4.5	—
Profit (Loss) for the year	3.1	(10.3)
Earnings (Loss) per share	6.7p	(2.2p)
Shareholders Funds	49.7	38.8
Gearing	60%	103%
Return on Assets	11%	6%

Extract from the Statement by Sir Campbell Adamson CHAIRMAN RENOLD PLC

Considerable headway has been made during the year in improving efficiency, and demand for our products is growing healthily. The regeneration of the Group is well under way and the financial restructuring which has taken place, somewhat ahead of plan, has opened the way for payment of dividends to shareholders in 1985/6. The Board foresees a continuing increase in profitability.

This is an abridged version of the full accounts which will be filed with the Registrar of Companies following the Annual General Meeting on 29th July 1985. Copies of the Annual Report can be obtained from the Secretary, Renold PLC, at the address below.

RENOLD PLC

Head Office: RENOLD HOUSE, STYAL ROAD, WYTHENSHAW, MANCHESTER M22 4WL. Tel: 061 4375221. Telex: 669052.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Strong pound and US worries send share prices tumbling

By Pam Spooner

Stock markets took a hefty knock yesterday, sending the FT-SE 100 share and FT 30 share indexes close to previous 1985 lows.

Imperial Chemical Industries and Glaxo Holdings led the way down as analysts took fright at the strength of sterling and at growing concern about trade in the US.

A slow-down in the North American economy is now generally acknowledged, pointing to weaker earnings prospects. Industrial demand in the US is below expectations and prices also look like standing still.

The pound, meanwhile, jumped nearly 2.5 cents against the US dollar on the foreign exchange, leaving prospects for currency advantage in the second half of the year poor.

At ICI the analysts now believe total pretax profits in the latter half of the year will be £30 million or £40 million below previous estimates. The second quarter - the three months from October - is now expected to produce profits of £20 million rather than up to £30 million.

ICI shares fell 7 1/2p to 712p, and Glaxo dropped 25p to 1220p.

Other leading shares were pushed lower by disappointing money supply and by continuing lack of investment support. The £82.5 million vendor placing by MEPC also depressed sentiment; the market has had enough of cash calls.

Hanson Trust - whose rights issue went badly - saw its share price drift another 5p lower to 182p, against the rights issue price of 185p. The Hanson new preference stock also took a knock, and the underwriters of that issue - who had to take up about 92 per cent of the preference shares - are now

looking at a loss of £15 million on that transaction. But it was small fry compared to the total loss suffered by the market as a whole yesterday. According to Datastream, some £2,903 million was wiped from the value of shares in its 1,000 company index.

By the close the 30 share market was down 9.2 points at 932 and the 100 index was 18.6 points lower at 1239.6, within

Lee Group, thought to be the world's largest TV and film lighting company, is planning to come to the full market through an offer for sale by Samuel Montagu. The flotation raises intriguing questions for shareholders in Media Technology, the camera equipment company which joined the USM in October last year. Lee is the controlling shareholder in Media Technology, with profits four times its size. Lee's market capitalization is likely to be about £100 million.

five points of its previous 1985 low.

Oil shares were also hurt. Continuing worries about world oil prices pulled shares down, and Indonesia shipped in a depressing news item in the course of the day. Companies drilling offshore Indonesia will have to sell 20 per cent - or more - of their equity to local investors by next January.

British Petroleum slipped 8p to 251p. British fell 8p to 205p. Lloyds fell 13p to 253p. Shell lost 13p to 683p. Tritelent slid 8p to 193p and Ultramar was also 8p down at 193p.

Gilts kept a firm front, though the money supply news - a 2 per cent rise in June - took a bit from prices. By the close Government stocks were around 1/2 higher.

Construction companies

provided a beacon of hope amid the gloom. Suggestions have been made that today's meeting of the National Economic Development Council will find Government ministers agreeing to the need to bring forward the programme of spending on repair of roads and buildings.

Immediately the market opened there were sharp rises in Tarmac, up 12p to 314p, Ready Mixed Concrete, up 4p to 364p, and Laing "A", 9p ahead at 215p.

However, analysts caution that much of the building industry has suffered from the poor weather during the first half of the year. Mr Adrian Goodall, of the broker Laurie, Millbank, says he believes Ready Mixed Concrete may offer the best value in the sector, but even so he expects its full-year profits to be down to £77 million, compared with £81.3 million. Most of the fall, he says, will have been accounted for by the weather-induced weakness in the first half.

Logica continued to bounce back from the depths to which it had sunk on news of heavy losses on the office automation side. The shares rose 7p to 134p. At these levels some City observers are beginning to fear that the recovery might have been overdone.

Mr James Dudd, electronics analyst at the brokers Fielding Newson-Smith, points out that even if the office automation sector is successfully disposed of, its losses will continue to affect group results for several months.

He also suggests that the balance sheet should give cause for hesitation: gearing stood at between 80 and 100 per cent at the end of last month. Clearly refinancing of some sort is a likelihood.

Star Computer rose 3p to

43p. The shares have slid from 63p in the last few weeks on fears that it will suffer from intensifying competition in the office automation business. However, Mr David Blechner, the joint chairman, says the company's specialized activity of supplying computer systems to leading accountancy firms has not been affected. "We're doing very well".

Talk in the computer industry

Scottish Northern Investment Trust disclosed some while ago that it has been approached with several suggestions as to how it might be reorganized with a view to eliminating the 20 per cent discount at which the shares stand to the underlying net asset value. The market appears to have overlooked the likelihood that privatization or similar reconstruction would result in the preference and debentures being repaid at par. The 4 1/2 per cent stand at 440, and the 3 per cent at 234.

try is that distributors of packaged software for microcomputers are suffering severely from reduced margins.

There are six main British distributors and already two are said to have gone out of business this year. This does not augur well for Kode International, which a year ago paid £2.9 million for Comart, a distributor of microcomputers and their software.

Mr Peter Boodby-Smith, the managing director, says Comart is feeling the effect of tough competition, and he agrees that earlier suggestions that the division would make £900,000 profits in the current year are optimistic. But he says the other important part of Kode, making printed circuit boards, is now back into profit. The shares held steady at 165p.

MEPC in £112m deal for English Property

By Our City Staff

MEPC has fulfilled a long-held ambition by acquiring English Property Corporation, whose portfolio of freehold (57 per cent) and leasehold (43 per cent) investment and development properties had a book value at June 30 last year of £220 million.

More than 80 per cent of the corporation's properties are in London and the South-east. They include the Pontings complex in Kensington High Street, London, Petershill House/Crest House in Queen Victoria Street, and Lea House in London Wall.

MEPC is paying £112.5 million to Olympia & York Developments, a Canadian company, for Olympia & York Developments (UK), the holding company of EPC. Of that £30 million is in cash and the balance in 33,232,629 MEPC ordinary shares.

The latter have been conditionally placed at 250p each by Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, and by the brokers to the placing, Cazenove, Rowe & Pimman and Fielding, Newson-Smith. The MEPC board is forecasting a final dividend for the year to December 30 of not less than 7.5p, making at least 10p for the year. The deal with Olympia & York does not require shareholders' approval.

MEPC, whose experienced management team controls a portfolio of £1.2 billion is confident that it can increase the revenues and capital value of the EPC portfolio "by a programme of active refurbishment and redevelopment".

● CARBURY RESOURCES: The directors have announced the acquisition of the following assets from Aber Resources, a 5 per cent working interest in five producing gas wells in Warren County, Pennsylvania; a 6 per cent working interest in 35,000 acres of oil and gas leases in Huron County, Ohio; a 40 per cent working interest in 400 acres of oil and gas leases in Ontario.

Aircraft sales help Intasun to £8.3m increase

By Clare Dobie

Intasun Leisure, the second biggest British holiday company, lifted profits sharply to £24.8 million before tax in the year to March 31. The increase reflects exceptional profits of £13.1 million, mostly from selling two Boeing 737s.

Trading profits were down by £4.3 million at £11.7 million. Turnover, however, was up from £191 million to £241 million. A further fall in trading profits is expected this year.

The company's chairman, Mr Harry Goodman, said Intasun had increased market share, but bookings were 5 per cent down last year. The industry's bookings were 20 per cent down.

Bookings have also been lower than usual this year. Mr Goodman hopes the late rush could leave Intasun's bookings for the year slightly ahead.

He is more optimistic about 1986. Hotel charges in Spain and other holiday destinations are set to fall. Like other holiday companies, Intasun should benefit from the weakening of



Harry Goodman: bookings down 5 per cent

the Spanish peseta and Greek drachma against the pound.

With that in mind, Intasun expects holiday prices next year to fall, and hopes that will result in increased bookings. Profits should also benefit.

The company is, nevertheless, establishing a new profit centre, with its recently acquired hotel interests. In March it spent £7.5 million on the

Barbican City Hotel in London. That is expected to contribute £1 million before financing costs in its first year of operation.

The acquisition of Global, which does not take effect until November, brings two hotels in Marjorja. And, via a joint venture with Ladbroke group, Intasun is interested in two other hotels. More are planned.

The most significant deal is the formation of a 80 per cent owned company with Ramada Hotel Group, an American chain. This company plans to buy two London hotels by the end of this year for up to £30 million. Over the next three to four years the joint venture proposes to buy or lease eight to ten hotels in London and the provinces.

In the short-term these investments will be financed from aircraft sales. Net borrowings are £40 million against shareholders' funds of £54 million. The gearing ratio is expected to be similar in a year.

The final dividend has been increased to 2.8p, taking the total to 4.8p (4.4p).

United Leasing up by 43%

By Ian Griffiths

United Leasing, the computer leasing company, has increased pretax profits to £5.3 million for the year to March 31, an advance of 43 per cent on the £3.7 million reported last time.

The sharpest increase in profits came from Europe, where a profit of £906,000 was recorded, well ahead of the £56,000 which the company made there a year ago. However, there were also increases in profits from Britain and the United States, which are the company's most important markets.

The company has aroused some controversy in the past because of its accounting practice of taking as profit some element of the estimated residual sales value of the computers it leases, even though that profit has not yet been realized. In the year to March 31 United Leasing reported profits of £6.4 million from that source. This is up on the £5.4 million last time, but as a percentage of gross profits has fallen from 57 to 38 per cent.

Sales also showed a substantial improvement, rising from £104.6 million to £176.3 million. The biggest source of turnover remains the supply and leasing of IBM computers which amounted to a record £109.1 million.

With IBM preparing to make deliveries of its new range of computers towards the end of the year the company is

expecting a lift in its performance in the second half of this year.

Mr Parry Mitchell, United Leasing's chairman, said: "Our results will be even more heavily weighted to the second half than in previous years".

Although he would not make a prediction about present year's profits, he was enthusiastic about the prospects.

Earnings per share rose from 22.3p to 32.9p in the year, aided by a marked reduction in the rate of the tax charge. Shareholders are rewarded with a 10 per cent increase in the final dividend from 2p to 2.2p, making a total payout for the year of 3.6p against 2.8p last time.

Interim profits nearly double at Associated Newspapers

By Christopher Dunn

Associated Newspapers, which owns the Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday and a string of provincial papers, as well as the Sun, Sec oil investments yesterday announced almost doubled interim profits, at £16.4 million, after introducing changing its accounting techniques.

The shares, which have been a strong market recently, rose 10p briefly to 920p, before easing back to the opening price of 910p. Early in January, the price was around 650p.

Group trading profits rose from £6.5 million to just under £10 million in the six months to March 31, and the Associated Newspapers board attributed part of the improvement to a better performance from the Daily Mail and The Mail on Sunday, previously thought to be loss-making. Associated Newspapers' chairman, Lord Rothermere, calculated yesterday that the improvements in profits of both newspapers should be maintained in the second half.

He added that profits from the group's chain of provincial newspapers were in line with comparable results last year for the first six months. But he gave a warning that provincial newspaper profits in the full year would be adversely affected



Lord Rothermere: warning over industrial action

by industrial action by printworkers. Traditionally the bulk of Associated's newspaper profits come from its provincial chain, which is the third largest in the country, with a combined circulation of more than a million.

Among the group's magazine interests, Euro money, which is 40 per cent owned by Associated, produced improved results and expanded its coverage of banking services. Profits from the United States magazine publishing concern, the 13-30 Group, also showed a marked increase.

But the associated board

reported some slightly discouraging news about its North Sea interests. Profits from Blackfriars Oil, which produces 100,000 barrels of oil a day, fell 12 per cent to £1.1 million. The 30/24, fell slightly after a lower contribution from the Argyle field.

But the news from the Esmond field was encouraging. The Esmond development is designed to recover at least 500 million cubic feet of gas from the Esmond, the Forbes, and the Gordon gas fields, starting in 1985.

Lord Rothermere reported that the first few feet of gas were successfully extracted from the Esmond field on June 1. Since then full production tests have been successful.

Accounting changes introduced during the first six months include a move to charge goodwill against reserves, rather than writing it off against profits. The effect of the change is to increase prior year trading profits by £300,000.

Interim turnover for the group was £205 million, compared with last year's £174 million, while pretax profits were boosted by profits on the sale of properties of £1.7 million. The interim dividend payable 3.5p, against 4.5p last time.

● GORING KERR: Six months to March 31, interim 3.5p (2.75p). Figures in 2000. Turnover 3791 (£389). Trading profit 1214 (£511). Pretax profit 1,250 (£945) including net interest receivable 36 (18 p.p.). Tax 586 (£460). Minorities 4 (nil). EPS 11p (8.05p). The group has developed a foreign body detector which will find not only metal but a wide range of non metallic contaminants. This will have a substantial influence on the further growth of the company and will contribute to results towards the end of the current year.

● OCE-VAN-DE GRINTON: In the half year to May 31, 1985, its pretax profit was £149.2 million (FI 47.5 million) on sales of £174.7 million (FI 840.7 million).

● MORGAN GRENELL: Mr Alistair Buchanan is to join in November as managing director of Morgan Grenfell Government Securities. GNI: Mr Anthony Norton is now a director. IGV Information Systems: Miss Claire Stevens has joined the board of directors. Reed Publishing: Mr Ronald G. Segel, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of Cahners Publishing, Boston, US, has been made a director.

Wincanton Group: Mr John Worby takes over as finance director. He replaces Mr Malcolm Meleod, who has been made development director. Mr Clive Waldron has been made commercial director. Mr Gerald Burke is to become finance director of Wincanton Vehicle Rentals, with effect from August 1.

Schoder Capital Management: Messrs R R Fookes, C Kaefer, K M Niveo and A O Woy have become senior vice-presidents.

Fondedle Foundations: Mr I D McKee is now managing director. Messrs P G Scott and P J Grundfield Dott have been made directors. Mr S Newbarg will remain as a director.

Barclays Merchant Bank: Mr

1985 A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

"This year has been one of intense activity, during which we have been able to concentrate on looking forward, making plans and redefining objectives in the light of the changing business environment."

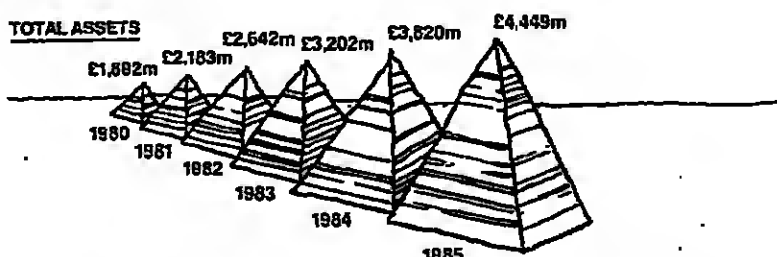
The Society now has a very strong financial position and the directors are confident that we have the resources to meet the new challenges arising from the wider powers we are being given and to take full advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead."



Jack Corrin, Chairman

ASSETS UP

During 1984/5 Anglia's total assets grew by over 16 per cent to £4,449 million, making us one of the top performing societies in the movement.



WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM

In the face of intense competition, receipts from investors amounted to £2,457 million and investors' balances rose by £479 million over the year.

WHERE THE MONEY WENT

Lending during the year reached a record level of £969 million on over 45,000 new home loans and further advances. More than half of our new home loans went to first time buyers.

As part of our commitment to providing sheltered housing, the Anglia Housing Association was formed to facilitate direct financing of projects for the elderly and handicapped and other socially desirable schemes.

FOCUS ON THE CITY

A further £121 million was raised from the London money markets in 1984/5, mainly by the regular issue of Certificates of Deposit (Anglia was one of the first societies to introduce these) and by the acceptance of Time Deposits.

IN RESERVE

The General Reserve amounted to over £177 million representing 3.98 per cent of total assets, one of the strongest reserve positions among the major building societies.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- ▲ Total assets increased by 16.48% to £4,449 million
- ▲ Receipts from investors amounted to £2,457 million
- ▲ The Society advanced a record sum of £969 million
- ▲ Over 45,000 new mortgages were issued
- ▲ The General Reserve amounted to over £177 million representing 3.98% of total assets
- ▲ Branch Offices 393
- ▲ Investors and borrowers accounts total 2.56 million



The building society that cares about what you want.
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Following reclassification, our share quote now appears under the Industrials section in this paper.

All enquiries to the PR Dept 01 353 1545

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	12 1/2%
Adam & Company	12 1/2%
Barclays	12 1/2%
BCCI	12 1/2%
Citibank Savings	11 1/2%
Consolidated Credit	12 1/2%
Continental Trust	12 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	12 1/2%
C. Hoar & Co	12 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	12 1/2%
Midland Bank	12 1/2%
Nat Westminister	12 1/2%
TSB	12 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	12 1/2%
Citibank NA	12 1/2%

1 Mortgage Base Rate

WORLD TRADE

Fears grow of new economic cold war

American resentment at the high Japanese content in record trade deficits has reached such a pitch that some observers in the United States and Asia expect a new cold war over trade between the free world's two economic superpowers. BAILEY MORRIS reports from Washington.

Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the outspoken Prime Minister of Malaysia, is not a man to mince words when assessing relations between the United States and Japan, the world's economic superpowers. What he sees in his crystal ball is the rise of an economic cold war which will dominate the rest of this decade and possibly the next, profoundly altering the traditional post-war balance of power. This is the Mahathir prognosis.

If the present opening salvos are not checked, he forces two possible results, neither of them acceptable. Either the US, frightened by excessive Japanese import penetration, will take protectionist steps to freeze out competition or it will seek an exclusive alliance with the other economic superpower. The latter step would not only hurt emerging Asian economies dependent on export growth but deeply wound European economies as well.

We have a saving in our part of the world that when two elephants fight, it is the grass that gets trampled. There is a further twist, not only does the grass get trampled when elephants fight, it gets squashed when the elephants sit down to make love, Dr Mahathir said.

He is among the growing number of officials who believe that the trade situation could get very ugly very quickly if the escalation of rhetoric between the two nations is allowed to continue.

This is particularly true given the persistent weakness in the US manufacturing sector. Every month, the US trade figures tell the same story, another record deficit with Japan.

It is a recurring nightmare which has unleashed something dark and uncertain in the American psyche. There is talk of retaliation on a scale not imagined since the 1930s. The US trade deficit with Japan is expected to reach \$50 billion

(£37.4 billion) this year, by far the largest component of a huge overall deficit, projected at up to \$150 billion.

In Japan, despite encouraging market-opening initiatives by Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, a bureaucratic backlash is already developing. There is public resentment over US demands that Japan spend more on defence. Officials are outspoken in their anger at being called "unfair" by US congressional officials.

As a result, resistance is growing in Tokyo at a time when US demands for market-opening measures are increasing. Japanese foreign ministry officials fear a "showdown" is in the offing by the autumn.

We face a very critical situation in the fall when Congress comes back to Washington. Mr Reishi Teshima, deputy foreign affairs minister, said.

This is due largely to anti-Japanese feeling in America which is at its highest since the war. This was the assessment of Mr Yoshio Okawara, the outgoing Japanese Ambassador to Washington, in a sober farewell address.

It was reflected in the remarks of Mr Lee Iacocca, chairman of Chrysler Corporation, who made remarks to a group of Democratic Party leaders which were construed by some as "racist" and for which he later apologized. It was underscored by the 92-0 vote in the US Senate condemning Japan's trade policies after a package of market-opening measures was announced in Tokyo.

On Main Street America, the image of the powerful Yankee trader taking a beating as well as unleashing something dark and uncertain in the American psyche. There is talk of retaliation on a scale not imagined since the 1930s. The US trade deficit with Japan is expected to reach \$50 billion

later this year or early next year before the 1986 mid-term elections. Sophisticated senators such as Mr John Danforth, a Republican free-trader from Missouri and Mr Lloyd Bentsen, a Democrat from Texas, are calling for retaliation. These are men who understand that there are many facets to the record US deficit. They cite the crippling effects of the high dollar and heed reports of sluggish out-dated American companies which are no longer competitive. But the "unfairness" they see in Japan's closed markets is moving them to strike back.

This is what prompted Mr Nakasone to take the unprecedented step last April of addressing the Japanese people on national television, using the US format of a "fireside chat" to warn of a national crisis which could stop Japan's export drive. He appealed to his countrymen to change entrenched post-war buying habits and buy foreign.

The object of this concern is not only the big deficit with Japan, which totalled \$34 billion last year, but also the growing Japanese presence in America - more than \$2 billion invested in steel, car, computer

and other plants stretching from New York to California. Japanese banks operate freely in American cities.

The causes of the hostility run deeper. The growing trade imbalance with Japan is forcing Americans to take a hard look at themselves. Increasingly, they are being told to follow the Japanese model: work harder, consume less, save more and, above all, be adaptable to new technology. Americans are no longer certain they are number one. This is especially true in industrial communities where unemployment remains high and slowing growth raises the spectre of another recession.

"Are we slipping into decline?" is a question posed often by economists and academics.

The debate has led to a new awareness of the importance of trade to an economy which has never been forced to look offshore for growth potential. Increasingly, there is pressure on President Reagan to give trade policy a higher priority.

A by-product of the debate is the rise of the "fairness doctrine" in the West's talks with Japan. It is based on the widely held Western conviction that Japan's trade practices are inherently unfair and that past Japanese promises to correct



Men in the middle: (from left) Prime Minister Nakasone, Senator Danforth and Dr Mahathir

them have not been kept. "quid pro quo" is the new battle cry on Capitol Hill.

Before the US Senate is a bill introduced by Senator John Heinz, a Republican from Pennsylvania, which would impose a three-year 20 per cent surcharge on all imports from Japan. It is considered the most protectionist measure of the flood which has been imposed.

Senator Danforth believes the US already has sufficient powers under the 1984 Trade Act to retaliate against Japan. Mindful of the restrictive tariffs of the 1930s, he wants to avoid an across-the-board approach by Congress of the sort which resulted in the infamous Hoot-Smiley Act which prolonged the depression.

Instead, he advocated a system of annual accounting or finger-pointing in which the US tools up Japan's unfair practices at the end of each year and respond in kind. He is building support for this kind of "measure response."

Meanwhile, the Reagan Administration continues to send teams of officials to Tokyo to negotiate market-opening measures. Much hinges politically on the results of these talks which have not yet delivered

the business potential the Administrations has promised. The snail-like pace of the negotiations has increased congressional frustrations. Many US officials now believe the only way to avoid a bitter confrontation is for Japan to announce strong internal measures to correct the trade imbalance.

Considering the stalemate over US fiscal policy, it is up to Japan to either tax its exports to slow penetration of overseas markets or establish formal import quotas in specific industries to be met by US and other foreign suppliers. This is the US remedy for preventing an economic cold war.

Such an approach at least recognizes that the causes of the bilateral trade imbalance lie deeper than supposed formal or informal Japanese protection. But even if Mr Nakasone's Government had the will to tax exports or artificially boost imports, it is doubtful whether this would be acceptable to ordinary Japanese voters. A survey following Mr Nakasone's television lecture showed that most people in Japan resented being told to go out and buy foreign goods, as people would in most industrial countries.

Charles Barker Brantley, Walton & Company: Mr Bill Brantley has been appointed chairman and Mr Clyde Walton, president. Mr Michael Priddens, Mr John Page and Mr Alan Ogden have joined the board.

Molins: Dr Michael Wright will become a director on August 1. He has also been appointed managing director of Molins Tobacco Machinery.

Equatorial Trust Corporation: Mr R. C. Shah has joined the board as chairman and managing director.

British Woodworking Federation: Mr Sol Margolis has become a director. He succeeds Mr Douglas Hall who has retired.

Business in the Community: Mr Charles Green, director and general manager of National Westminster Bank, has become deputy chairman of the board of Business in the Community and chairman of the BIC executive committee. Mr Tony Cleaver, general manager of IBM, has joined the BIC board and Mr Michael Barry, director of corporate affairs of the Confederation of British Industry, has

been appointed to the BIC executive committee. Tilbury Plant: Mr R. J. Drinkwater has succeeded Mr Keith Tate as managing director. Mr Tate has retired.

Euro Electronics: Mr David Hay is now managing director. Williams Lea Group: The Rev W. A. Peasey has been appointed group development director.

General Consolidated Investment Trust: Mr Nicholas McAndrew, a managing director of N. M. Rothschild & Sons, has joined the board. Mr Bryan R. Basset has resigned.

United Glass Holdings: Mr David Margand, managing director of the United Closures and plastics division, and Mr Herbert Nettleship, managing director of Robson's distribution services division, have joined the board.

Richards, Longstaff (Insurance): Mr John Daswood has been appointed a director and also a director of the UK division.

Charles Barker Group: Mr Paddy Murray has been appointed group managing director.

British Pump Manufacturers' Association: Mr Bob Moore, managing director of SPP Group, has been elected chairman of the BPMA.

Building Employers Confederation: Mr Roger Wakefield has been appointed director of legal services. He succeeds Mr Philip Povey who has retired.

Deloitte Haskins and Sells: Mr Kevin R. Renzie has become a partner.

Ferranti Industrial Electronics: Mr Pat Wimbush has been appointed managing director. He takes over from Mr D. M. McCallum who continues as chairman.

Uniden: Mr Peter Grimes has been appointed sales and marketing director. Mr Paul Matland has become company secretary.

Malcolm McIntyre & Partners: Mr Ronald Emler has joined the board.

Vintilo SA: Mr Francis C. Lang becomes chairman and chief executive. He succeeds Mr Nicholas J. D. Williams who has resigned.

Telemetric: Mr Rger Crump has taken over the role of group managing director.

C. C. H. Stuart, William Ellis & T. H. Stuart, Farmwell, Moor, Cumbria, have been appointed directors of the company.

James Watson & Co. Ltd, 100, The Quadrant, London, have been appointed directors of the company.

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Triplos

The following Triplos examination results from Cambridge University.

are published in the Cambridge University Gazette.

NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPLOS, PART

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Fatal
By Mandarin
(Kissel Philips)

Following the Summit, the Bangladesh Government will be holding a seminar on the subject of the environment. Al Baharaini will be participating in this seminar. He will also be speaking on the subject of the environment at the Bangladesh Fair which is being held in Dhaka. He will also be speaking on the subject of the environment at the Bangladesh Fair which is being held in Dhaka.

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As his Personal Assistant you will enjoy an exciting, varied and active work environment. Frequent contact with overseas visitors makes good social skills and a confident personality essential.

Previous City experience and familiarity with the City of London are essential.

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PA/Admin £11,000

An increasing number of PA and Admin. working for the MD of a substantial W1 computer software company (established 1972). The PA will be required to travel to exhibitions and handle the company's public relations as well as a PA service to the go-ahead 35 year old MD.

The requirement is for a mid-career to early career PA (30/40 wpm) who has had previous PA or Admin. experience and who will enjoy working in a fast paced and dynamic environment. Very much a job for a good all-rounder who is working a move away from WP or typewriter. Excellent benefits.

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Recruitment Consultants

130 Regent Street, London W1

Oil Industry Finance in Knightsbridge

Elf UK, the British subsidiary of a major international oil company, has 2 new vacancies in the Finance Department:

Accounts Secretary

If you enjoy typing figures and would like to combine this with a challenging secretarial role, then this is the job for you!

We are looking for someone to join our small but busy Accounts Team and the ideal candidate will be educated to A level standard, with at least 2 years' experience in an accounting/figures environment. A good basic knowledge of French and word processing would be a distinct advantage.

In return, we offer a generous salary package which includes a twice-yearly bonus, lunch allowance, and an interest-free season ticket loan.

Please apply in writing, with full current cv, to Mrs. Tessa Blore, Elf UK Plc, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RZ.

Treasury Secretary

Educated to at least A level standard, the successful candidate for this post will have a minimum of 2 years' financial background with English shorthand. Organisational flair is essential as is the ability to work as part of a small, dynamic team. A working knowledge of French, combined with excellent all-round secretarial and administrative skills, will make you the ideal candidate for this post.

We offer a competitive salary and attractive fringe benefits including a subsidised staff restaurant and non-contributory pension.

Please write in confidence with full career details to:

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Secretary/PA

£12,000 + car

This dynamic City based company is seeking a top quality Secretary/PA to look after its Senior Director.

Suitable applicants will be aged 27-35, have first class secretarial skills, fluent French and an impeccable personal presentation. They will be able to respond under pressure, be self starters and have excellent communication skills both within the business environment and socially.

This position commands long hours plus travel in the UK and overseas and is unlikely to appeal to anyone with inflexible personal commitments.

Candidates who are able to meet these high standards and who are seeking a challenging, rewarding career should send full details, in confidence, to Sally P. Morse of The SM Consultancy, 9 Rolvenden Gardens, Bromley BR1 2TN or telephone 01-466 1104 between 5.30pm-9.00pm on Wednesday, 10th July.

MAYFAIR

c.£11,000

A mature Secretary is needed for the gentlemanly Chairman of this international holding company. The successful candidate will enjoy looking after the personal side of his life as well as dealing with his business affairs. Aged 28-45. Speeds 100/60.

ADVERTISING W1

£10,000

The Managing Director of this leading agency is looking for a Sec/PA to assist him and his team. In addition to being a strong secretarial support you will also be responsible for secretarial recruitment and supervision and organising a busy schedule of client entertaining. Aged 25-30. Speeds 90/60.

VICTORIA

£7,500

This prestigious company based in luxurious offices is looking for a bright and enthusiastic secretary to work for two busy executives. This requires a well presented young secretary who will be able to liaise effectively with VIPs and Diplomats. Aged 21+. Speeds 90/60.

PERSONNEL W1

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Please call 01-434 4512

Crone Corkill

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99 Regent Street, W1

Administration Co-ordinator £9,500

This city based public company has an exciting opening for a career minded experienced Secretary. The job will encompass personnel and administration and will develop into office management and other areas. This real opportunity is for someone flexible and hard working with a warm natural personality. Personal and computer experience will be an advantage. Skills: 90/60. Age 25-35.

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St James's based company is looking for Senior Secretary with shorthand typing skills at 100/70 to take care of four or five executives. This is a busy job in an intriguing industry, at times frustrating, always exciting. Please send cv to:

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Alfred Marks St James's

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Senior Secretary - Management Consultancy

Salary c.£11,500

Can you meet the challenge of providing professional PA/Secretarial support to the young dynamic partner leading our rapidly expanding Management Consultancy and Computer Services activity?

You should have previous director level PA experience, together with poise and the ability to remain calm in a hectic and demanding atmosphere, and be aged 25 - 35.

Working in a stimulating and fast moving environment the person appointed will have excellent shorthand/typing, a knowledge of Word Processing, and be seeking to extend their administrative and organisational skills.

Benefits include a subsidised staff restaurant, season ticket loan scheme and offices situated close to St Paul's.

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Charles of the Ritz

Leading cosmetic company require Secretary-Promotions Manager based in London W1. We are seeking to recruit a competent, well organised and efficient secretary to assist in the smooth running of this very busy department.

The successful applicant will have a high standard of shorthand typewriting and presentation, a pleasant telephone manner and be able to show diplomacy and tact in direct customer/client liaison. Numeracy and organisational skills are essential.

Age range 21-30 years with at least 3 years experience at senior management level. A background in the cosmetic industry would be advantageous, but not essential.

We offer very pleasant working conditions, a competitive salary, non-contributory pension scheme and free life assurance.

Please write full CV to Mrs W. West, Personnel Manager, Charles of the Ritz, Victoria Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex BN15 9LQ

Royal Society of Arts

Secretary

A secretary is required to work in the busy campaign office of the Education for Capability Fellow/Education Advisor to Industry Year 1986. He or she will be involved in conferences, exhibitions & events & in arranging meetings & travel. Strong administrative typing skills & shorthand skills essential. Word processing experience & an interest in education an advantage.

The appointment, which is to start as soon as possible, is for a 6-month period ending 30th April 1987. Salary £7,750, 5 weeks annual leave, interest free STL etc.

To apply please send full CV to Janet Jones

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS

8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ

or phone 01-930 5115 ext 216

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New appointment in a fast expanding organisation

CJES YOUNG SECRETARY

LONDON W.1 MAX. £10,000
U.K. HEAD OFFICE OF LEADING OIL COMPANY

We invite applications from secretaries in their early 20's. Ideally with work experience in a commercial environment, but candidates who have recently completed a thorough training will be considered. Accurate shorthand and typing (minimum 100/50) are essential, and word processing skills. The successful candidate will give full secretarial support to the Deputy Legal Adviser and in addition to handling daily correspondence, keeping the diary, etc., will prepare forecasts, reports, operating agreements, etc. on the Wang word processor and will have contact with other oil companies. The atmosphere is friendly but a strong personality and confidence are necessary to handle the pressure of meeting deadlines and there must be commitment and flexibility to work long hours when necessary. Initial remuneration is negotiable to £10,000 in relation to age and experience, plus good company benefits. Applications in strict confidence under reference SDLA640/TT to the Managing Director.

Opportunity to work locally in an interesting and responsible senior position

CJES SECRETARY/MARKETING ASSISTANT

HERTFORDSHIRE HIGH-TEC MULTINATIONAL £9,000 + BONUS

Our Client, The Marketing Director of the leading company, requires a well-educated assistant with accurate shorthand, typing and word processing skills, good written English, numeracy and a minimum of 5 years' experience, preferably gained in a marketing/sales environment. The pure secretarial content of correspondence etc. is small and the emphasis is on administrative ability and using the personal computer to prepare detailed presentation material, which includes statistics, forecasts, graphs, etc. using SuperCalc 3 software. Previous p.c. experience will be helpful but is not essential. The Marketing Director has the ability to delegate and seeks an assistant who will take on responsibility, especially during his absences abroad. The confidence for international liaison and a diplomatic manner are the qualities we seek. Initial remuneration is negotiable to £9,000 + guaranteed bonus, paid overtime and good company benefits. Applications in strict confidence under the reference SMA/641/TT to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS), 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1TH. TEL: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX NO: 01-588 9216.

Secretary/Information Assistant

We are looking for a highly competent, career orientated Secretary/Information Assistant, preferably in the 25-35 years age group to work for the Head of Press and Information in a major and well known international company which has extensive and diverse business activities.

Based in the West End, you will be joining a small and closely-knit team working in a dynamic business environment.

This job is one of the most interesting - the work will involve direct contact with the media concerning press releases, general enquiries and specific issues relating to the Company. A confident, outgoing personality is therefore of paramount importance. An ability to show good initiative and organisational skills in maintaining an information reference system is also essential.

The successful candidate will need to be an accomplished secretary and because the office uses the latest range of office technology, word processing skills are required; training will, however, be given if necessary. You will need to be flexible in your hours of work and have the ability to cope under pressure.

The working conditions are first-class and an attractive employment package is offered. The salary will be negotiable to suit the high standard required.

Please apply in writing, quoting current salary and enclosing a full c.v. to Ref: MA587, Robert Marshall Advertising Limited, 44 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7DJ.

Robert Marshall Advertising Ltd

Director's PA with Prospects

Are you looking for the scope and flexibility to apply your talents and maximise your future career prospects?

We offer the opportunity to carve your career with a respected and successful personnel management consultancy. As PA to the Director in charge of our Energy team, you will initially commence your progression by providing full secretarial and administrative support to him, whilst being part of a small, friendly group of support staff.

Your work scope will include a diversity of tasks, such as producing a high volume of varied reports, co-ordinating advertising, arranging meetings, dealing with correspondence etc. You can expect to utilise fully your potential in the longer term by

moving into a trainee consultant or research capacity with your expanding knowledge of our business.

Ideally, you are a graduate in your early/mid 30s and have accurate audio and word processing experience. Professional and enthusiastic, you have a good sense of humour and the ability to work well under pressure and communicate with people at all levels.

The remuneration package includes a negotiable salary plus bonus, free lunches, BUPA and four weeks holiday. Please ring or preferably write to Lin Cantley, Company Secretary, Cripps, Sears & Associates Ltd, Personnel Management Consultants, Burne House, 82/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Telephone 01-404 5511.

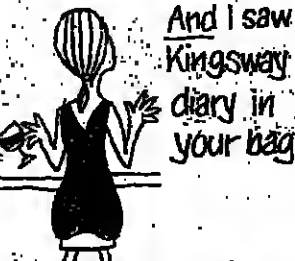
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Complete secondary education (in English language), good working knowledge of French; secretarial training including English shorthand and typing (minimum 90 and 50 wpm respectively), French typing (45 wpm) and, if possible, shorthand (75 wpm); considerable secretarial experience including use of text-processing equipment, preferably Wang. Detailed curriculum vitae with recent photograph should be addressed to Personnel Section, WIPO, 34, chemin des Colombettes, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, by July 24, 1985.

Director Level Secretary

Wandsworth wants you!

£8,772-£9,510

We need a first class secretary to join a small team providing support to our Administration Directorate. The Council provides many services for the people living and working within Wandsworth, London's second largest borough. The Administration Directorate is concerned at the highest level with the efficient functioning of this complex organisation. You will need to be an excellent experienced secretary who is used to dealing with people, able to be flexible in your way of working and of course have good accurate typing and enjoy audio work more than shorthand.

We think you may live locally and be able to take advantage of easy travelling. Working hours will be by agreement, but frequently cover will be required between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Application forms from Administration Department, Town Hall, London, SW18 2PU. (Tel: 01-871 6052). Closes: 9th August.

This appointment is subject to the LMGC ring fence procedure and you are invited to apply only if you are employed by the GLC or London Boroughs.

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This company, one of Britain's largest leisure groups, is looking for a Secretary to work for its Personnel Director who is responsible for senior level recruitment. A diplomatic manner is essential as is the ability to relate to people at all levels. 100/80. Age 22+.

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A Consultant with this young firm needs a PA to get involved with everything from meeting his well-known clients to the summer party day out at the races. Good shorthand/typing (80/80) and audio skills. 80/85.

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This small busy company with lovely offices is looking for a true Assistant to be everything from Receptionist to PA to the chairman. Good typing and shorthand or audio skills and it will train you on WP.

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Senior Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants

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£10,000 - W6

An American multi-national in financial services requiring a Secretary to support the Finance Manager (and looking up the VP's PA on occasion) with organizing conferences all over Europe. You must be mechanical, flexible and efficient in an international context with the variety involved with this position. You should be versatile, confident and able to take on responsibility. 90/80. Age 22+.

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Argentina wary on UK trade move

From A Correspondent
Buenos Aires

Argentina seems to have been caught off guard by the British decision this week to lift a ban it imposed on imports from Argentina during 1982.

President Alfonsín discussed the matter with his Foreign Affairs and Defence ministers in a hastily convened meeting on Monday evening, government sources said.

But the President decided to postpone a formal reaction to the British move until after yesterday's Independence Day holiday.

The Foreign Minister, Señor Danie Caputo, said a discussion of sovereignty over the disputed islands was essential to improve relations with Britain.

He said that the Foreign Ministry would release a statement today on Britain's decision to lift the import embargo.

Some analysts viewed the move as part of a British attempt to head off political criticism in the United Nations Committee on Decolonisation, which is expected to consider the Falkland Islands question in August.

Other analysts ascribed the lifting of the ban to a canny diplomatic strategy by the British Government aimed at winning landing rights in Brazil for aircraft supplying the Falklands.

Ben the consensus of most Argentine diplomatic experts is that Munday's announcement was an astute move designed to lure Argentina into normalizing relations between the two countries without discussing the sticky issue of sovereignty over the islands.

Officials said the lifting of the imports embargo will not mean a great deal economically to Argentina. The country's exports to Britain, mostly beef, corn and leather amounted to only \$130 million (£98 million) in 1981. The trade balance between the two countries has usually tipped in Britain's favour.

Furthermore, experts say, some trade between the two countries has continued through intermediaries since the war.

Creator of Dan Dare and Mekon dies at 66

Frank Hampson, creator of Dan Dare, the Mekon and the dreams of a generation of British schoolboys, died aged 66 yesterday.

He was the artist who brought space-age adventure to postwar youth in the magazine *Eagle* where the battle of Dare and his sidekick Digby against the evil, green-headed Mekon made the comic one of the most successful in Britain.

But Hampson never shared in the great success of his creation. He left *Eagle* in 1962, seven years before the comic closed, and was seriously ill with heart disease and cancer for the last decade of his life when he worked as a college lecturer.

The Dan Dare character and artwork produced by Hampson remained the copyright of the magazine company IPC which successfully marketed both throughout the world.

Mr Barrie Tomlinson, group editor of IPC boys comics, said yesterday that Hampson would run a tribute to Hampson, probably reviving some of the artist's original 1950s artwork, in about six weeks.

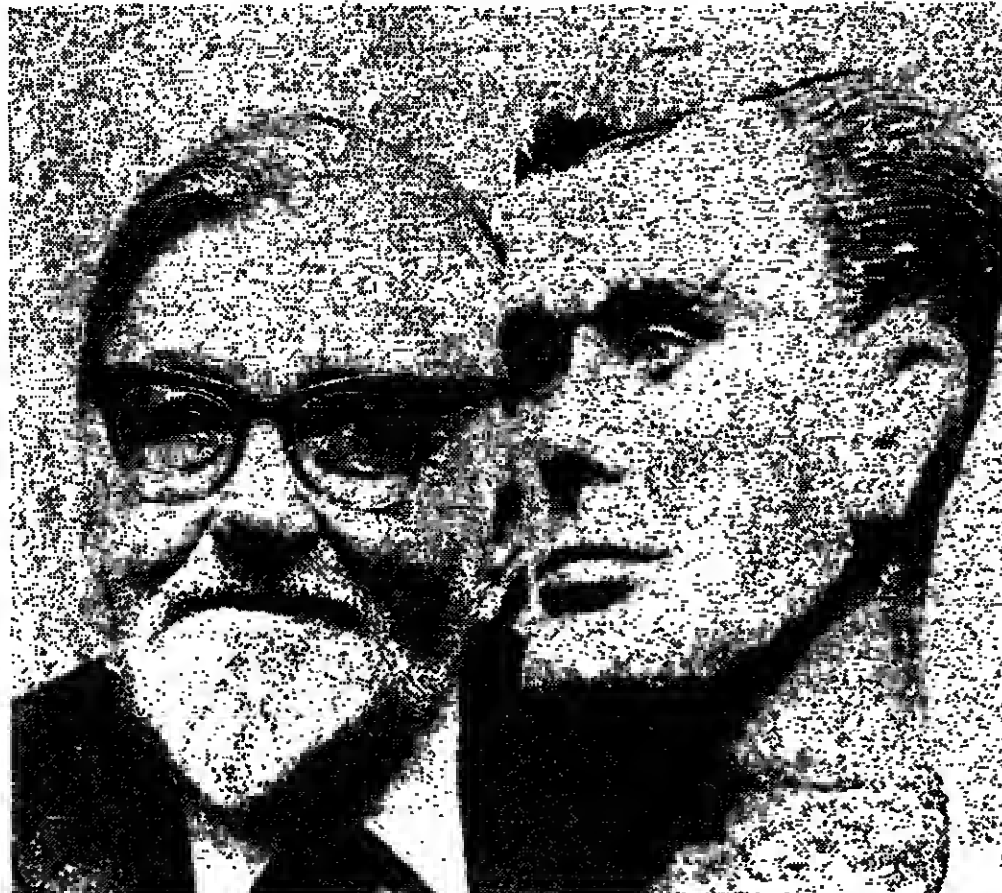
Eagle now sells 100,000 copies weekly, making it one of the company's biggest comics.

"Hampson was far ahead of his time," Mr Tomlinson said. "Comics owe him a great debt. Roy of the Rovers and Dan Dare were the two major characters developed by British comics. The great thing about Dan Dare is that he is 100 per cent British; he doesn't bully, he doesn't panic."

Obituary, page 14.



A space-age Biggles, the heroic Dan Dare, swings into action in *Eagle* magazine (left).



Frank Hampson with a bust of Dan Dare, the 100 per cent British character he created



Castro says Reagan is worst terrorist of all

Continued from page 1

attacks on the US embassy in Beirut in April 1983 and on the marine base six months later.

Since the freeing of the TWA hostages President Reagan has again telephoned President Assad over the seven kidnap victims. Conservative newspapers, to which the President pays attention, said he had no other choice but to help Mr Assad's help, but found himself in the unenviable position of elevating the prestige of a champion supporter of terrorism and a bitter enemy of the West.

Meanwhile it was reported in London that an international meeting on terrorism which Britain and the United States had been trying to arrange in Bonn this week, has been postponed until the end of the month.

Officials are blaming the delay upon lack of time in which to organize it. Yesterday the ambassadors of four Arab League countries - Saudi Arabia, Syria, Morocco and Lebanon - protested against the threat of an international ban on Beirut

Changes in policy ridiculed by Kinnoch

Continued from page 1

"They are obsessively committed to Trident and they have managed to make it their sacred cow, Trojan horse and cuckoo in the nest as well," Mr Kinnoch said.

It was a "crazy, self-defeating policy," but it was also based on the absurdity that Britain could go it alone. "That is a ruinous lunacy which involves buying an insurance policy which we can't afford, which we could never cash because it would guarantee our obliteration," he added.

"And far from being defenceless," he concluded, "we will be better defended for we shall sustain the strength of the forces that we can use, the forces that we can deploy, the forces that meet our needs for security and our allies' needs for dependability."

Leading article, page 13

Linda Christmas in the Commons Brecon beckons strange alliances

Mr Richard Livsey, the Liberal winner of the Brecon and Radnor by-election took his seat in the Commons just after 3.30pm. He walked towards the Mace, stopping to bow several times as is the custom, sandwiched between two suitable sized minders, one, the Liberal Chief Whip, Alen Beith, and the other a fellow Welsh hill farmer, Geraint Howells.

A few order papers were waved. He looked apprehensive, standing there in firmly moved brown shoes, and he claimed to love most - farming and a secure family life. Quietly he muttered something about being faithful to the Queen while Dennis Skinner muttered something about being "here today and gone tomorrow."

The mutterings of the House are not usually worth recording, for it is provided an exception for images of that Mr Skinner not merely agreeing with the Prime Minister but echoing her words.

In question time Mrs Thatcher had grudgingly congratulated the by-election winner, and could not resist a dig at the nature of Alliance successes by drawing attention to the fact that the tenure of SDP and Liberal members elected in by-elections tended to be short. The fear of a third party appeared fleetingly to unite the left of the Labour Party with the right of the Tory party. An illusion that Mr Skinner soon dispelled, but more of that later.

Mrs Thatcher had obviously checked up on how Harold Macmillan had reacted and behaved after the Tories' shocking defeat at Orpington and decided to offer much the same "We shall not lose our nerve" message in much the same carefully unflappable tone.

It was in any event the only way to cope with the excitable Mr Roy Hattersley when in Mr Kinnoch's absence, aggressively using the Chancellor of the Exchequer's figures to prove that Britain had the best growth rate in Europe, when the Opposition's figures showed that there was only

one EEC country with a worse growth rate.

Mrs Thatcher wriggled out of this accusation of manipulation which encouraged Mr Hattersley to hit her with his favourite conglomerate of statistics - those which prove that she is presiding over a government which records the highest unemployment rate, the highest number of company liquidations and the highest interest rates in the country's history.

She topped the catalogue by reminding him that she presided over a government with a record output, record standard of living and record investment.

No loss of nerve there. And no loss of nerve for Mr Skinner who yet once again demanded that Mrs Thatcher do decent thing and tell the Governor of the Bank of England to publish the report on Johnson Matthey, the bank that went bust and had to be rescued. He got nowhere with the Prime Minister and, so brought the subject up again just before the debate on new clauses, to be added to the Finance Bill.

More than 134 members had signed a motion seeking the chance to debate Johnson Matthey under the guise of a new clause to the Bill and yet the clause had not been chosen. We are being gagged, he said.

Mr Brian Soderghorne agreed, as the representative of Hackney, the poorest constituency, he felt outraged that he was not allowed to criticize the rich even though he had a file a mile high to prove the fraudulent goings on in the City.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours is less bellicose and looks as though he would be happier plunging into pleasant Lake District waters, but nonetheless he joined in and pleaded for the public's right to know what was in those menacing files. The Speaker was not moved. The clause went unselected.

The three men huddled together on the benches and then left the chamber together, giving the impression members have not seen the last of this fearless troika

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh give a garden party at Buckingham Palace, 4.
Princess Anne, President of the Missions to Seamen, attends the annual general meeting of the missions, Southampton, on board HMS *Unwink*, 12.30.
The Duke of Gloucester attends the opening day of the Association of Drainage Authorities' demonstrations near Peterborough, 11.
The Duke of Kent visits Westcott Estate, NW2, 3.15; later the Duke, accompanied by the Duchess, attends the film premiere of *Return to Oz* at the Leicester Square Theatre in aid of the Hospital for Sick Children and the Variety Club of Great Britain, 7.55.

New exhibitions
The work of Albert Pile (1882-1981): Art Gallery, the Crescent, Scarborough, Tues to Sat 10.10 to 5.20, Sunday 2 to 5. Monday closed; (ends Aug 11).
The Kiss: Derek Ridgers' and paintings by Chris Fairclough, Hylke Meckel, Gallery, Vank, Terrace, Darlington, Mon to Sat 10-8 closed Sun; (ends July 31).
Last chance to see
Black and White Memories by David Bailey, Ashley Cheatham Art Gallery, Trinity Street, Stalybridge, Tues to Fri 10 to 8; Sat 9 to 4; closed Sun and Mon; (ends today).

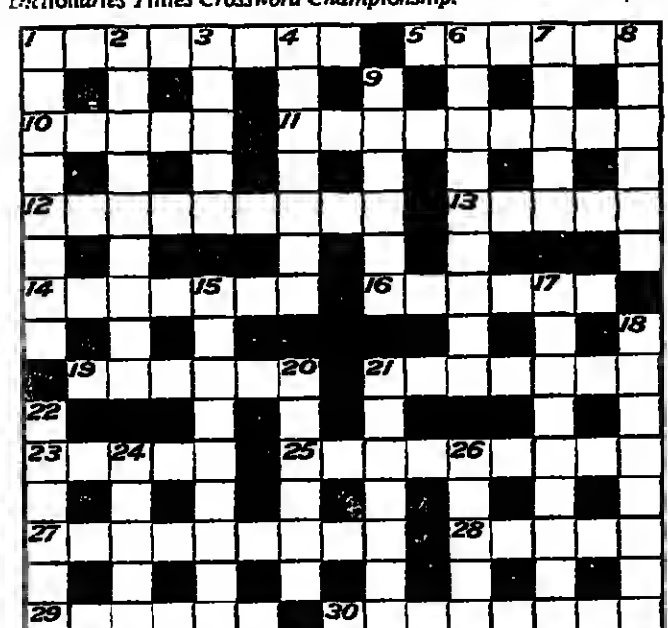
Paintings and drawings
by Sumaya McIntyre: Ginnell Gallery, Lloyd's House, Lloyd's Street, Manchester, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30; Sat 11 to 4; (ends today).

Music
Three choirs concert with the Cathedral choir of Canterbury, Guildford and St Albans, St Albans Cathedral, 7.30.
Concert by Chichester Chamber Orchestra, Town Hall, Kidderminster, 7.30.
Concert by the Demian String Quartet, Unitarian Chapel, Warwick, 8.
Organ recital by Catherine Ennis, St Edmund's Church, Southwold, 8.15.
Concert by the Academy of Ancient Music, and the choir of New College, Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, 8.
Concert by the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.
Organ recital by Thomas Trotter, Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30.
Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Salisbury Cathedral, 7.30.

Talks, lectures
Prints and print-making, Castle Museum, Nottingham, 1.
William Morris and Philip Webb their work for the Bell family in the North-east by Sheila Kirk, Laing Art Gallery, Highgate Place, Newcastle upon Tyne, 12.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,785

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 11 per cent of the competitors at this year's Bristol regional final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship.



- ACROSS**
- In finish, perfect (8).
 - Moor - a girl (6).
 - Lytic with universal cure in old music hall (5).
 - Subtle in jumble sales of shady quality (9).
 - A shower? It's not quite what we expected (9).
 - Carrier leaves to prepare to fight, showing real fibre (5).
 - Effeminate? It's for both men and women (7).
 - Stopped being sober, say (6).
 - Mountain retreat has the right class (6).
 - Show the way in through being a beggar (7).
 - An army to win strength (4,5).
 - A note in "Aladdin" perhaps showing artistic skill (9).
 - In the South of France a resort of criminals is unexpected (6).
 - Hardly cut - see (8).

Exhibitions in progress

Rochdale Artists' Workshop: the Portico Library and Galleries, 57 Portico Street, Manchester, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 4.30; ends July 26.

Anniversaries

Births: John Calvin, Noyan, Picardy, 1509; Frederick Marryat, novelist, author of *Mr Midshipman Easy*, London, 1792; Camille Pissarro, St Thomas, West Indies, 1830; Marcel Proust, Paris, 1871.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, completion of remaining stages. Commons (2.30): Transport Bill, Committee, second day.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,784

ACROSS
1. FINISH, PERFECT (8).
2. MOOR - A GIRL (6).
3. LYRIC WITH UNIVERSAL CURE IN OLD MUSIC HALL (5).
4. SUBTLE IN JUMBLE SALES OF SHADY QUALITY (9).
5. A SHOWER? IT'S NOT QUITE WHAT WE EXPECTED (9).
6. CARRIER LEAVES TO PREPARE TO FIGHT, SHOWING REAL FIBRE (5).
7. EFFEMINATE? IT'S FOR BOTH MEN AND WOMEN (7).
8. STOPPED BEING SOBER, SAY (6).
9. MOUNTAIN RETREAT HAS THE RIGHT CLASS (6).
10. SHOW THE WAY IN THROUGH BEING A BEGGAR (7).
11. AN ARMY TO WIN STRENGTH (4,5).
12. A NOTE IN "ALADDIN" PERHAPS SHOWING ARTISTIC SKILL (9).
13. IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE A RESORT OF CRIMINALS IS UNEXPECTED (6).
14. HARDLY CUT - SEE (8).

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play
Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.
Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.
If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

Pollen count

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council yesterday was 102, a high is very high. Forecast for the rest of the day is similar.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the draw for £5,000 Premium Bond prize are: 1848 54861, 625 02355, 26 96532, 44611, 425 65425, 316 68501, 409 79376, 801 61035, 619 63525, 1252 74215, 1072 64785, 1879 49321, 1776 66595, 1571 25144, 175 56211, 181 59508, 1571 25220, 2217 12537, 2257 56297, 1046 52342, 1719 27159, 1719 51496, 1496 85572, 1312 18498, 127 87026.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will persist to S, but a trough of low pressure will cross northern Britain.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, SW England, East Angles, E, W, Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry with sunny or clear intervals; winds variable mainly W light, max temp 20 to 22C (68-72F).
E, NW, central N, NE England, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Dogs: Bright or sunny intervals at first, becoming rather cloudy with hill fog patches and occasional rain or drizzle later, chiefly near hills, wind W to SW light or moderate; max temp 18 to 20C (64-68F).
SW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Rather cloudy occasional rain or drizzle, with hill fog patches; wind mainly SW light or moderate; max temp 15 to 17C (59-63F).
Outlook for Thursday and Friday: Changeable in N, continuing dry and warm in parts of S.

Drugs on duty

A new safety leaflet from the Automobile Association, *At Any Time*, is available, produced in conjunction with the British Medical Association and the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, highlights the dangers to driving of drugs, illness and emotional upset. Among the drugs 'almost certainly dangerous to the road user' it highlights those for nervous ailments, sleeping medicines, pills to treat travel sickness and allergies, pain relieving drugs and drugs for motorists to seek advice from their doctor or chemist on possible side effects.

The pound

Against the dollar, the pound is up 1.5 pence to 1.56 pence. Against the Swiss franc, it is up 1.5 pence to 1.56 pence. Against the German mark, it is up 1.5 pence to 1.56 pence.

Lighting-up time

London 9.46 pm to 4.26 am (BST).
Bristol 9.55 pm to 4.36 am (BST).
Manchester 10.05 pm to 4.46 am (BST).
Preston 10.01 pm to 4.42 am (BST).

Yesterday

Temperature at 10.00 yesterday at C, cloud, 1, rain, 8, sun, 1.
Belfast: 17.03, 17.03, 17.03.
Birmingham: 18.64, 18.64, 18.64.
Bristol: 18.61, 18.61, 18.61.
Cardiff: 17.83, 17.83, 17.83.
Glasgow: 18.51, 18.51, 18.51.
London: 17.83, 17.83, 17.83.
Manchester: 18.61, 18.61, 18.61.
Preston: 18.01, 18.01, 18.01.

Highest and lowest

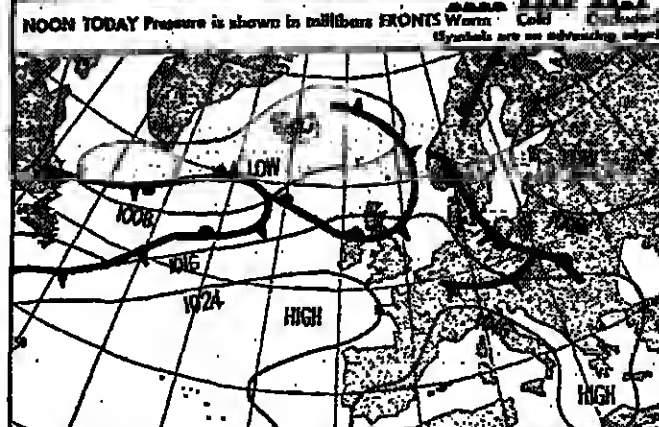
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Weymouth, 24C (75F); lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, 12C (54F).
Lowest night temp: Weymouth, 15C (59F); highest night temp: Weymouth, 15C (59F).

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 22C (72F); min 8 pm to 6 am, 16C (61F).
Rain: 10.05 pm to 4.46 am (BST).
Preston: 10.01 pm to 4.42 am (BST).

Abroad

Algeria: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Argentina: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Australia: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Belgium: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Brazil: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Canada: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
China: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
France: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Germany: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
India: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Japan: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
New Zealand: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Norway: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Russia: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
South Africa: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Spain: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Sweden: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
Switzerland: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.
USA: 25.79, 25.79, 25.79.



High tides

Today: London Bridge 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Aberdeen 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Amsterdam 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Antwerp 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Belfast 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Bristol 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Cardiff 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Dover 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Edinburgh 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Glasgow 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Hull 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Liverpool 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
London 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Manchester 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Preston 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Reading 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Sheffield 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Southampton 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Tees 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Wolverhampton 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.

Around Britain

East Coast: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
South Coast: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
West Coast: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
North Coast: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
Central: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
South: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
East: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
West: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
North: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.
South: 6.10, 6.10, 6.10.

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